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Khamenei rules out foreign policy shift

Remarks hint internal split may widen

NICOSIA, Aug 22, (AP) Iran's new spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei today poured cold water on speculations that the new leadership in Tehran would adopt a more flexible foreign policy to end the country's international isolation.

State-run Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Khamenei as saying: "We must preserve our revolutionary Islamic stances in a firm manner and without vesting hopes in some of the false hope-inspiring faces."

But a tough statement by the spiritual leader last week, ruling out any negotiations with the United States over the fate of 16 Western hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian extremists, reflected differences over foreign policy.

Addressing Foreign Ministry officials and Iranian ambassadors in Tehran for consultations, Khamenei said today: "Arrogant powers like the US and its allies are not only against Islam, but religion itself."

He stressed the need to "adopt Islamic position in forging our country's foreign policy... our foreign policy will not change in the future and we will continue with the same policy as before."

Almost simultaneously, a heated argument broke out at a regular Parliament session when the so-called hardliners sharply attacked an editorial published yesterday in the conservative newspaper Ettelaat.

The Faris-tung daily newspaper suggested that many of Iran's economic woes were due to the hostility and anti-West slogans in the early days of the revolution.

One parliamentarian shouted that the writer of the editorial in the daily paper was "a new Salman Rushdie."

Meanwhile, Rafsanjani, whose executive powers have been considerably boosted after constitutional amendments this month eliminated the post of prime minister, has acknowledged that his choice of aides has drawn criticism, but showed no signs of bowing to pressure.

Today he appointed Hamid Mirzadeh, 39, as his third vice-president for executive affairs. Mirzadeh is deputy prime minister for executive affairs in the outgoing cabinet.

He has appointed Hassan Habibi, a French-trained former justice minister, his first vice-president. He also has named Ataollah Mohajerani, a former deputy prime minister, as vice-president for judicial and parliamentary affairs.

The remark underscored differences between Khamenei and the newly elected President, Hashemi Rafsanjani, over the future path of the Islamic Revolution following Ayatollah Khomeini's death on June 3.

A reputed pragmatist, Rafsanjani is seeking more private investment and links with the West to obtain the technology and financing to rebuild the economy, shattered by eight years of war with Iraq.

Khamenei, who was appointed supreme leader following Khomeini's death, is believed to back Rafsanjani on many domestic issues.

Panther Newton killed in Oakland

OAKLAND, California, Aug 22, (AP) Huey Newton, whose Black Panthers preached "the power of the gun" in a war against white authority in the United States, was found fatally shot in an Oakland street early today, police reported.

Newton, 47, whose violent career was marked by many clashes with the law and who spent time as a fugitive in Cuba, was found about 5:30 am (1230 GMT), said police officer Terry Foley.

A 10-foot-round (3-metre-round) pool of blood marked the spot in a low-income neighbourhood of West Oakland where Newton was found suffering from multiple gunshot wounds, including at least one shot in the head.

Police got a report of gunshots fired at 5:29 am (1229 GMT) and arrived a minute later, said Sgt. Dan Marcado. He said Newton was taken to Highland Hospital where he was pronounced dead at 6:12 am (1312 GMT).

Marcado declined to say whether there were any suspects, or reveal any further details surrounding the fatal shooting.

"I saw him laying down on the street. I called my wife to the window," said a resident of the neighbourhood, Roy Johnson. He said he did not hear any gunshots and did not call the police.

Another resident, who asked not to be identified, said: "He (Huey) hadn't been down here in years. This is where he used to organise. This is really his old stomping grounds."

Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panthers, the now-defunct radical black liberation group, in the 1960s in reaction to police brutality in Oakland. Newton served as its defence minister.

Panthers walked the streets in black berets and black leather jackets to "protect" black people from the authorities they reviled as "pigs." Their credo was: "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."

Bobby Rush, a former leader of the Panthers who is now an alderman in Chicago, said: "The Huey that I remember was a student of the world and made a commitment to change the conditions in the world."

He "made a contribution to the advancement of the ideals of freedom, justice and equality for all Americans," said Rush, who left the Panthers nearly 20 years ago.

But Tom Orlloff, deputy district attorney for Alameda county who prosecuted Newton in 1974, called him "a man who lived by violence and outside the law" and "nothing but a gangster."

In California, the state Senate subcommittee on UN-American activities said in August 1970 that the Black Panthers were controlled by the Communist Party of the United States to "serve as shock troops on the front line of the revolution."

Then-FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover described the Panthers as a "black extremist organisation" consisting mostly of "hoodlum-type revolutionaries" who stockpiled weapons, espoused Marxist-Leninist doctrines and terrorised black communities.



Battle remains

A man and his son collect their belongings from their destroyed house during the savage artillery battles across Beirut's Green Line. (Reuters wirephoto)

Axis 'no' to Aoun offer

BEIRUT, Aug 22, (Agencies) Syria's Muslim allies rejected a peace offer from Christian Army commander Gen. Michel Aoun today after night-long rocket and artillery duels between Syrian troops and Christian forces.

Also today, France announced it sent two more naval vessels to the eastern Mediterranean, bringing to eight the number of its ships dispatched toward Lebanon.

Police said four people were killed and 50 wounded in the clashes that dwindled after daybreak into intermittent exchanges of mortar rounds across Beirut's dividing Green Line.

By police count, 789 people have been killed and 2,190 wounded in the five-month-old confrontation between Aoun's 20,000 mainly Christian troops and 40,000 Syrian soldiers and allied militias.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim who heads the Syrian-backed cabinet vying for power with Aoun's, ruled out any positive response to an offer for negotiations by the Maronite general.

"It is a mine field. Any response to it is highly unlikely," Hoss said in a statement broadcast by Voice of the People, a radio station based in Muslim West Beirut.

Aoun said in an interview published yesterday he was ready anytime to discuss Lebanon's future at a round table with leaders of the other side.

Aoun did not mention his previous demand that talks on political reforms could be held only after Syria withdraws its forces from Lebanon.

US Ambassador John McCarthy, talking to reporters after a 45-minute meeting with Aoun, stressed that "there's obviously no military solution to the problem for Lebanon."

He said Washington had "told people that we prefer and recommend the implementation of a ceasefire."

McCarthy said the purpose of his meeting with Aoun was to "emphasize that the military confrontation is not taking us anywhere."

"We are delivering the same messages to Damascus," McCarthy said.

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 8)



Religious lessons

Iraqi Kurdish children take religious lessons at a refugee camp near Mardin, southeast province of Turkey where nearly 15,000 Kurds have been living since Sept 1988. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

Wrong doctor killed: A 92-year-old man, claiming his doctor had made him blind, gunned down the wrong medic at a Stockholm medical centre on Tuesday, a police spokesman said.

The spokesman said the 92-year-old, whose name was withheld, walked into a 62-year-old doctor's office and blamed the doctor for his loss of sight over the past couple of years.

"He then pulled out a gun and fired five shots, one of which hit the doctor in the chest and killed him," said Stockholm police spokesman Carl Westling.

But Westling said the man attacked and killed was a private doctor who only occasionally filled in at the medical centre and had only examined the 92-year-old man once before, in March this year. (UPI)

Charged with rape: A Bronx couple were arrested on Tuesday and charged with raping and sodomising nine of their children, and three other children were missing and believed murdered, police said.

The identities of the 34-year-old mother and the 45-year-old father were not immediately released. Both were charged with nine counts of sodomy and rape, according to police spokesman Capt. Steve Davis.

The investigation that led to the charges began on May 25, when the Bureau of Child Welfare took the nine children, who ranged in age from 4 months to 16 years, away from the couple. (AP)

Balfour denies wrongdoing: Andrew Balfour, the third secretary at the British embassy in Dubai who is reported to have been questioned by police in London last week under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, said on Monday he never had any disonourable dealings.

Balfour, who is also vice consul at the embassy, issued a statement through his lawyers after news reports last week that he was one of two men arrested under the act by Scotland Yard officers, questioned and then released on police bail. (AP)

PLO to stop Israeli contacts: The PLO has decided "to stop contacts with the Israelis," because a solution to settle the Middle-East conflict cannot be negotiated only with Palestinians living in the Arab occupied lands, a leading Palestinian official said Tuesday.

In an interview broadcast by the Radio France International (RFI) network, Salah Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, said that even though they are "convinced that meetings with the Israelis have helped bring closer some point of views," they have decided to put an end to that after the US delegation's statement that "the solution could only be negotiated with Palestinians from inside." (KUNA)

Revised peace plan: President Najibullah on Tuesday outlined what he said were new ways to end Afghanistan's civil war and called for an international conference to back the search for a political solution.

Najibullah outlined the revised version of an old peace plan, which has already been rejected by Afghan rebels and by Washington.

Aussie admits bid on Desai

SYDNEY, Aug 22, (Reuters) A 33-year-old Australian pleaded guilty today to plotting 11 years ago to kill the then-Indian prime minister Morarji Desai by planting a bomb outside the Sydney Hilton Hotel.

Evan Pedrick, a member of the Indian religious sect Ananda Marga, bungled the assassination attempt and the bomb went off accidentally, killing two garbage collectors and a policeman. **Full Report Page 7**

Thames toll 57

LONDON, Aug 22, (Reuters) River patrols today found six more bodies from Sunday's Thames pleasure boat disaster and police said 57 people were now believed to have died.

A witness said the crew of the sand dredger Bowbelle may not have realised it had rammed and sunk the Marchioness, a riverboat filled with late-night partygoers.

Police said 31 bodies had now been recovered after the worst Thames disaster in more than a century. Twenty-six people were believed to be still missing.

The Marchioness sank within two minutes of being rammed from behind by the much larger Bowbelle. Many who drowned were figures from London's fashion and finance businesses. Police said 79 survivors had been registered.

Kids killed for kidneys

OTTAWA, Aug 22, (KUNA) Kidneys and other organs are being bought and sold like commodities between poor countries of the south and rich countries of the north.

The warning came yesterday at a conference of 200 doctors and officials in Ottawa, Canada's capital on the ethics of organ transplants.

"It is one of the nightmares of the medical and technological advances of our time and it expresses the extreme of human greed," said Kuwaiti doctor George Abouna, chairman of the organ transplant clinic at Kuwaiti University.

Abouna told his audience that he is referring specifically to the kidnapping of children who are killed so that their organs can be used by rich people.

But quite aside from the children, a growing traffic in organs is prompting rich Kuwaitis to travel to India and other Asian countries to obtain kidney transplants.

"I think it is only a matter of time before greedy brokers, middlemen in hospitals begin to obtain organs for high profits, using illegal means and will quite likely enter the realm of the underground criminal world, as in the case of the drug trade."

About 10 per cent of the transplants at the Madras clinic are performed on foreigners, who pay about \$5,000, of which half goes to the donor.

In Mexico, authorities are unearthing the remains of children with missing organs. The kidnapping of children takes place in Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti, Argentina, Brazil, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India and Turkey, explained Bertell.

'Gulf oil states preventing oil price rise'

BAHRAIN, Aug 22, (Reuters) Three Gulf Arab OPEC states are putting a lid on oil prices to keep the industrial world addicted to their crude, analysts and traders in the region say.

They said Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) want prices to stay in a range of \$15-18 per barrel to feed demand for OPEC oil and win a larger share of the world market in the next decade.

"With their huge reserves, Gulf oil states are better off keeping prices low...so they will induce demand for OPEC oil as well as discourage expenditure on oil exploration in other countries," a Gulf-based economist said today.

"Their aim is to keep the West hooked

on oil from the Gulf, and the only way for this dependency to continue is to keep prices at competitively low levels of between \$15 and \$18 a barrel," he said.

In June, the UAE and Kuwait pledged to cut excess output, but Gulf-based traders said that in the first half of August they pumped a total of about 1.5 million barrels per day (BPD) more than their combined OPEC sales quotas. Extra supply pushes prices lower.

The two states are co-operating to boost their revenues and to pressure OPEC to raise their quotas, the traders said.

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest exporter, sympathises with its neighbours' demands for a bigger market share, the traders said.

They said Riyadh did not object to the excess production because prices had not fallen below \$15 a barrel.

Industry sources say Saudi wellhead output is about five million BPD, above its OPEC sales quota of 4.769 million BPD.

"At the moment, Gulf states are happy with price levels," one trader said. "But if prices go below \$15 the giant - Saudi Arabia - will raise its big stick."

The Gulf Arab states feel that if prices fall below \$15 their revenues will be seriously hit and foreign producers like the United States might protect domestic producers with taxes on imports.

A rise above \$18 would encourage the West to find new oil supplies and develop

alternative sources of energy.

Saudi Arabia tried to introduce a floor price of \$15 at an OPEC meeting in Vienna last November.

The proposal, which nearly scuttled OPEC's output pact for the first half of 1989, was rejected by most members.

OPEC reaffirmed its \$18 reference price in June. Algerian Oil Minister Sadek Bousgana said most states in the OPEC considered the target as a minimum.

But oil sources in the Gulf - whose countries hold an estimated 40 per cent of the world's reserves - say the Saudi proposal has been accepted in principle by some other producers in the region, including Iraq.

Day by Day

FUAD MUSAED Al Saleh, director of security at the Ahmadi Governorate has restricted pigeon hunting in some areas of the governorate.

On our part we inform Brig. Fuad that the chalets in the Nuwaiseeb area are full of hunters who shoot aimlessly, thus causing accidents. These hunters even threaten to shoot those watchmen who object to such kind of random shooting. We do hope that Brig. Fuad will put an end to this problem, about which we have written several times.

The acts of these irresponsible hunters had been curbed before, but on each occasion they seem to return with a vengeance.

Such a challenge to the law must be immediately responded to - failing which, security statements will be construed merely as "lip-service"

Zabed Matar

'Queen of hotels', Helmsley, endures her trial

NEW YORK, Aug. 22. (Agencies). Dripping diamonds and encased in designer gowns, Leona Helmsley looks regally out from magazine advertisements, touring herself as the "queen" of her hotel empire.

But the billionaire hotelier whose self-aggrandis-

ing ads have made her known nationwide, has discovered her sovereignty is not recognised in the court of law.

For six weeks, prosecution witnesses at her trial on a 47-count indictment have portrayed Mrs Helms-

sley as an abusive boss who evaded taxes by charging personal expenses to her business, extorted kickbacks from liquor suppliers and didn't pay her bills.

Even her lawyer conceded she was "demanding" and "abrasive."

Mrs Helmsley, 69 — who with her husband, Harry, heads a \$5 billion real estate empire — has said not a word publicly about the stories of greed and arrogance presented by the prosecution, which rested its case last Tuesday after presenting 44 witnesses and thousands of pages of documents.

Through it all, Mrs Helmsley has done her best to remain remote and regal. Her head held high, she listened, occasionally jotted notes and whispered comments to her lawyers.

While always fashionably dressed, Mrs Helmsley has not flaunted her wealth. She wore tailored suits

and simple jewelry like a single strand of pearls and a gold wedding band.

Well-trained in courtroom procedure, she often was the first to rise when the jury entered the room. She would look directly at the jurors and give them a friendly nod.

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The late George Adamson with a lion's cub at the Kora Game Reserve in Kenya.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was written shortly before 83-year-old George Adamson was found shot dead Monday at his homestead in a remote northeastern Kenya game reserve. This may be the last interview he gave to the press.

KORA, Kenya: Some people say George Adamson looks a bit like a lion with his flowing gold-white mane and his whiskerlike goatee and moustache.

And tonight, bare-chested as usual, wearing his baggy shorts and sandals, he even sounds like one as he calls two lions by name, using a megaphone that amplifies his voice into a roar.

"Come on, Grove. Come on, Dennis. Come on!"

Out there in the night, perhaps a mile or more away from his camp, the evening silence is broken by the answering roar of lions.

Nearly 25 years after the world-popular film "Born Free" — the story of Elsa the lioness, raised by George and Joy Adamson — Mr Adamson is still setting captive and orphaned lions free in this remote part of northern Kenya.

"I get a lot of satisfaction out of that, because you put them back in the life for which they were created, instead of stuck behind bars and gaped at by people," he said in an interview.

Adamson has proved that even a lion whose family for four generations has been in zoos or a circus can be introduced successfully to the wilds. And he has shown that lions and man can establish a relationship, as he says, of "mutual friendship and trust."

Altogether, since he and his wife released Elsa, Adamson has free about 30 lions. "But that doesn't count the off-spring," he says. "If you included all the off-spring, you'd run into a hundred or more."

Rhinos

He's far from finished, too, he says. Now he would like to start reintroducing rhinos to the area, if adequate anti-poaching protections become available.

Visitors to his Kampi ya Simba (Swahili for "Lion Camp") call him George — not Mr Adamson. That's not for lack of respect, but out of respect for the modest, unpretentious nature of the man made famous through the film, a song, and Joy's book all titled "Born Free"

and later by George's own two books: "Bwana Game," and "My Pride and Joy." Joy died tragically nine years ago, murdered by a Kenyan employee she had fired.

George's camp is modest: a mere dozen structures, including huts for the Kenyan staff and himself. His one-room home has a palm-frond roof, walls of stick, chicken wire, and cloth, and a sand floor. He enjoys feeding the vulturine guinea fowl, doves,

hornbills, monkeys, and a squirrel that come to the camp. After his evening meal by lamp light, he retires to his hut to type out diary entries and other records, using his slow, one-finger method.

Around the compound is a 10-foot fence to keep the lions out. When he first came here from another part of Kenya 18 years ago, he didn't build a fence right away. So some of the lions he had freed came right back into camp.

"One of the lions, Christian, used to hop on my bed," George recalls. "And he was a bit too big for comfort, and I used to have to throw him out."

But tonight I am glad for the seven lionesses, six puppy-sized cubs, and a male, Dennis, gathered just outside the fence. Several times some of the lions, including Grove, came right up to the fence, only a few feet from us.

George often feeds the mother lions when they have cubs, as two of them do now. Illegal overgrazing in the Kora Game Reserve has stripped the area of much of the grass that sustains the small animals, which, in turn, are the prey of the lions. Some conservationists privately criticise George's lion feeding, saying that it makes lions less cautious around people. George disagrees.

"It's a question of these cubs. If I didn't feed them, probably half of them wouldn't survive. I'd like these cubs to grow up and eventually form their own prides."

Fatality

"In the 18 years that I've been here, there has been one fatality and about three maulings. During the same period, no one knows how many people have been killed in the rest of the country by lions, and mauled by lions. I think it would be quite a large

number."

British, born in India where his father was working, Adamson came to Kenya in 1924. Before becoming a game warden, he was a professional hunter of lions and other animals. But in the mid-1930s, while leading a photographic safari in Kenya, something happened that nudged him away from killing lions.

"I remember one evening passing a rock and a lioness was sitting on it. I thought to myself, 'Probably on the self-same rock there had been lions sitting for hundreds and hundreds of years, maybe long before mankind could walk on two legs.' And then I thought about the people who go hunting and they see a lioness on a rock. They would probably shoot it. To what purpose? Isn't it far better to see that lion on the rock rather than killing it and sticking it on the wall to some dwelling?"

He had several close calls with lions in the wild. In 1939, as a game warden, he was hunting for a man-eater that had killed a number of people. Seeing it, he fired, but only wounded it. The lion ran toward him, and his rifle jammed.

"So there was nothing else I could do except when she got to me to ram the muzzle of the rifle into her mouth. I did that, and she bit it, and tore it out of my hand and then grabbed me by the forearm and knocked me over backwards. I got up immediately and tried to pull out this sheath knife. But I couldn't because my arm was numb. Then she came for me again, caught me by the left thigh, and knocked me over again."

But at that point, the lion went away. He got his gun working again and fired several shots in the air. Help soon arrived.

Most of his work with lions has been peaceful, however. Game wardens and others in Kenya have sent him lion cubs over the years whose mothers were shot for attacking cattle, often in areas outside of game parks. Others were sent from zoos, including some lions used in the film "Born Free," which he later set free.

Well beyond retirement years, Adamson has not worked with many lions recently, but currently he is raising three cubs, now half-grown, taking them on walks and letting them roam at their own during the day. At night they return voluntarily to a penned area in his compound. Soon he will shut them out, obliging them to live free.

The future of Kora Game Reserve — and thus the future work of Adamson in Kora — is uncertain. The reserve is some 500 parched square miles of dense, thorn thickets and short, bone-dry trees. It is one of Africa's most primitive and least-changed places.

In an apparent response to this, the government of Kenya in recent months has stationed armed agents in the reserve who have chased out poachers and herders.

As a reserve, the area is locally administered and does not have the same protection it would as a national park. The new director of Kenya's Wildlife Department, Richard Leakey, has not yet decided whether the area should be made a national park. (CSM)

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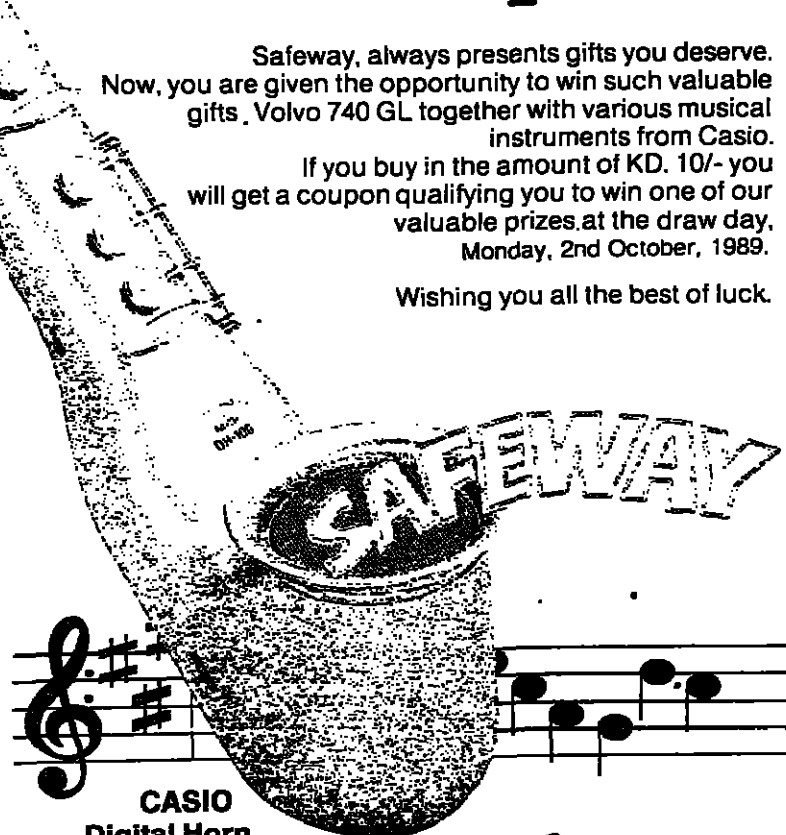
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Getting a look at the Fitzgerald

Freighter sank in 1975

WHITEFISH POINT, Michigan, Aug. 22. (AP). Explorers and archaeologists are using an underwater robot to explore the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald and hope film of the Lake Superior bottom will provide new explanations for the disaster.

The 729-foot (222 metre) steel freighter with a crew of 29 took on water and snapped in two during a November 1975 storm. No bodies ever were recovered.

A three-day expedition set to begin today will use a robot carrying three-dimensional video cameras to reach the wreck 556 feet (169 metres) beneath that surface, said Tom Farquhar, director of the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society and one of three expedition leaders.

The search will test newly developed video equipment and its use for underwater archaeology. Science aside, "the carrot in there is 'wow, we get to see the Fitz-

gerald,'" Farquhar said yesterday.

The wreck of the Fitzgerald lies about 17 miles (27 kilometres) northwest of Whitefish Point on Michigan's upper Peninsula.

The Fitzgerald was hauling more than 27,000 tons of iron ore from Superior, Wisconsin, to Detroit, Michigan, when it ran into a gale on the eastern end of Lake Superior. The boat disappeared from radar without even a distress call.

The wreck was memorialized in song by Gordon Lightfoot and remains the subject of public fascination, Farquhar said.

"It's the most historic of the recent wrecks, and it shouldn't have happened in this modern age of sailing," he said from his home in South St. Marie.

A US Coast Guard team in 1976 used a cable-controlled device to record black and white video images of the boat, the front half of which still sat upright in the mud bottom.

مكتبة من الامم



The Butlers speak to reporters during a meal at Golfito Hospital on Sunday in San Jose, Costa Rica. (Reuters wirephoto)

Couple adrift 66 days

The power of prayer

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Aug 22, (UPI) — An American man and woman who survived a 66-day ordeal at sea were in good condition yesterday, though they remained dehydrated and severely sunburned, according to a hospital spokesman.

William Butler, 60, and his wife, Simone Butler, 52, of Miami were rescued on Saturday by the Costa Rican Coast Guard and were taken to a hospital in the coastal city of Golfito.

The Butlers were expected to stay most of this week at the facility, where Dr. Miguel Angel Melendez said, "considering the circumstances they're doing quite well."

"I forced myself to eat almost two pounds (about 1 kg) of raw fish a day and I forced my wife to eat it too," Butler said in a telephone interview from his hospital bed.

He said each of them lost 50 pounds (22 kg) during the ordeal. He now weighs about 128 pounds (58 kg) and said, "I don't even recognize myself."

Butler said they never gave up hope.

"We discovered once again the power of God and prayer, that's the only thing that really saved us," he said.

The Butlers left Matheson Hammock Park Marina in Miami on April 14 aboard their 38-foot (11-m) yacht Siboney. They planned to sail around the world.

Butler is a ham radio enthusiast and was in daily contact with fellow ham radio operators world-wide until his boat

sank, according to a US Coast Guard spokeswoman. The couple's daughter, Susan Smith of Fort Lauderdale, reported them missing July 10, but the US Coast Guard's search was hampered because nobody knew where to look.

The couple's boat was recorded crossing the Panama Canal on May 23 and was headed for Hawaii. Butler said that about 1,200 miles (1,930 km) southwest of Costa Rica on June 15, dozens of whales — "perhaps a hundred" — attacked his vessel.

"They started bashing the boat around until they finally holed the fiberglass. We heard the water coming in, sent a Mayday, loaded the life raft and in 15 minutes the boat sank," he recalled.

The Butlers escaped in their 6-foot (1.8-m) rubber raft, loading it with provisions for 15 days, fishing hooks and a purifier to convert salt water to drinking water. They were able to catch fish with the hooks, using a turtle and bits of triggerfish for bait.

"When a turtle came by, I pulled him out of the water and cut his throat. That started our food chain," Butler said.

Three or four weeks after the sinking, however, he lost the last hook. From then on he dangled bait over the side of the raft with one hand and said he grabbed the fish that came by with the other. They survived shark attacks by sealing punctures in the raft with a repair kit, he said.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NAMIBIA: Ethel Kennedy, widow of Robert Kennedy, is in Namibia on a charity mission to Africa. Kennedy and other America volunteers are distributing US corporate donations of medical supplies, toys, tents, shoes and books. She danced with refugee children Monday at a refugee centre in Dobra, where one of her daughters is a volunteer worker. (UPI)

CHARLOTTE: The case packs all the elements of a soap opera: Sex, money, religion and intrigue. The stakes are high — 126 years prison term, if convicted on all counts. Jury selection began Monday at Charlotte, NC, in the federal fraud and conspiracy trial of PTL founder Jim Bakker, accused of misusing millions given to the ministry by its supporters. Baker was accompanied by his attorneys and his daughter, Tammy Sue, as he arrived at the courthouse in a black BMW. His wife, Tammy Faye, was not by his side. (UPI)

LOS ANGELES: Leeza Gibbons of Entertainment Tonight and actor husband Chris Quisenberry also are proud parents of a baby girl. She was born Sunday in Los Angeles, weighing in at 8 pounds 8 ounces. "We're so excited," says the mother. Both are doing fine. (UPI)

UTAH VALLEY: Country-western singer Marie Osmond gave birth during the weekend to an 8-pound, 9-ounce girl. The 20-inch baby was born Saturday at Utah Valley Medical Centre in Provo. There were no complications. Osmond, who starred on a television variety show during the 1970s with her brother, Donny, has a 6-year-old son from her previous marriage to former Brigham Young University basketball star Stephen Craig. (UPI)

MAINE COAST: A 147-foot luxury yacht carrying Mexican businessman Emilio Azcarraga ran aground and nearly sank in a rocky cove on the Maine Coast Sunday. There were 16 other people on the multimillion-dollar yacht Paraiso. All were evacuated safely by local fishing vessels. Azcarraga, who owns one of Mexico's largest television companies, Televisa SA, later flew to New York aboard a chartered jet with his guests. (UPI)

KALISPELL, Montana: A hog that normally would sell for about \$100 at auction brought \$4,150 when bidders opened their hearts and wallets to help an injured 12-year-old boy. Ted Ernest had hoped to show his hog at the Flathead County Fair. But less than two weeks ago, he fell from a tree and was paralyzed from the waist down.

Ted is in a Missoula Hospital, learning to get around in a wheelchair. His younger brother, Jesse, showed the hog instead. (AP)

WASHINGTON: Former CIA director Richard Helms still remembers vividly that lunch 53 years ago. Helms, then a 23-year-old reporter for United Press, recalls in Time Magazine that dictator Adolf Hitler invited him in Nuremberg, Germany, following a Nazi rally, and that the Führer was somewhat humorous, less and nervous. Hitler told Helms, "I have only one fear. It is that the countries around us, into which the poison of Bolshevism is eating its way, will succumb to the red wave one after another. Moscow is seeking to dominate Europe. We shall never permit that." (UPI)

ORLANDO: Movie director Ron Howard of Parenthood is taking parenthood seriously. When he was shooting the hit movie "Parenthood" in Orlando, Fla., he wanted his four kids to be around. Howard, 35, tells Newsweek Magazine, "It's really important that if I have a Sunday or half a Sunday or an evening or — if I'm shooting nights — a day, that I find a way to be with the kids." (UPI)

NEW YORK: Chalk it up to campaign stress: Ghosts are talking to Mayor Edward I. Koch, and he's talking back.

Robert Moses New York's planning czar who died in 1981, recently stopped by to chat with Koch, the mayor said on Monday.

Koch, in the middle of a tough primary contest for his fourth term, said Moses relayed two requests.

"First, he wants me to be mayor," Koch said. The second request was that Koch bring the world's fair to New York sometimes in the mid-1990, he said. (AP)



On the job

JOHN F. Kennedy Jr. began work today as a Manhattan prosecutor, but only after striding through a gauntlet of photographers and politely answering reporters' questions.

Kennedy, who took the subway to work, rolled his eyes when he saw the horde of more than 40 reporters, photographers and TV crew members waiting for him at the Manhattan district attorney's office.

HOLDREGE, Nebraska: Two couples were charged Monday for a bullet-punctuated chase that authorities say ended a daring helicopter escape from a Colorado prison.

Bond was set for \$1 million each for Patricia and Freddie Gonzales when the couple appeared before magistrate Maria Watson in Phelps County Court. The judge also scheduled a preliminary hearing for the pair for Thursday.

Another couple, Rebecca and Ralph P. Brown, were scheduled to appear in court later Monday.

Brown and Gonzales, cellmates at the medium-security Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility in Ordway, Colorado, escaped Friday after the wives hijacked a helicopter at gunpoint and forced the pilot to land in the prison yard, authorities said.

The women had rented the helicopter on the pretext of looking at real estate.

After picking up the men, the helicopter landed a few miles away and the four transferred to a rental van, leaving the pilot, Tim Graves, tied up in a shed. He was unhurt.

The four were captured eight hours later after exchanging heavy gunfire with authorities in this Nebraska town, 400 miles (640 kilometers) from the prison. (AP)

NEWPORT, Rhode Island: George Shearing turned 70 and the Newport Jazz Festival turned 35, so perhaps it was fitting the two anniversaries were celebrated together.

The pianist and composer of Lullaby of Birdland joined singer Mel Tormé in entertaining 2,000 people on the lawn at the Newport Casino on Friday to launch this year's festival.

The pair offered up the four Bs — Blues, Ballads, (Count) Basie and Broadway. A fifth B (for birthday) also made the programme. (AP)

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee: (AP) Jerry Lewis is using his old movies to reach a very special member of the younger generation — this year's muscular dystrophy Association poster child.

Five-year-old Ashley Auttak met the comedian for the first time in December in Las Vegas, shortly after being selected as the poster child.

Barbara Harber, Ashley's grandmother, recalled asking Ashley about Lewis on the girl's return from the trip. "Granma, he's kinda funny," Ashley said. (AP)

PETERBOROUGH, New Hampshire: Stas Brakhage, one of the most influential filmmakers of America's avant-garde cinema, is this year's recipient of the prestigious Edward MacDowell Medal.

It was the first time in 30 years the medal has been given to a filmmaker.

Brakhage was cited for "a lifelong commitment to producing inventive films that go beyond conventional devices of plot and character." (AP)

2 charged in kidnap plot

'Snuff' video planned

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia, Aug 22, (AP): Two Virginia men are under arrest, accused of plotting to kidnap a boy to be tortured and killed in a pornographic videotape, officials said yesterday.

US attorney Henry Hudson identified the two as Dean Ashley Lambey, 34, of Richmond, and Daniel Depew, 28, of Alexandria.

Both were charged with conspiracy to kidnap, according to Will Garrett, an FBI spokesman for the agency's Richmond, Virginia, field office. They were being held without bail pending indictment by a grand jury, Hudson said.

Authorities said no kidnapping took place.

Hudson and FBI special agent W. Douglas Gow said the investigation leading up to the Aug 14 arrests was begun by the San Jose, California, police department.

Lambey is alleged to have told undercover officers from California that he wanted to find a preadolescent, white boy to be used in a sexually explicit "snuff" video, the officials said. The name refers to a video or film subject's life being "snuffed out."

The plan was to kidnap a child from northern Virginia or purchase the child through a group of people, Hudson said.

Authorities said the boy was to be held for up to two weeks while being videotaped — and then killed.

Lambey was arrested in Richmond while Depew was arrested in the Washington, DC area, Hudson said.

Depew is alleged to have told the undercover officers that he intended to use his house in Richmond to make the video, officials said. Hudson said US officials are filing a court request to seize the house.

VILLA FOR RENT

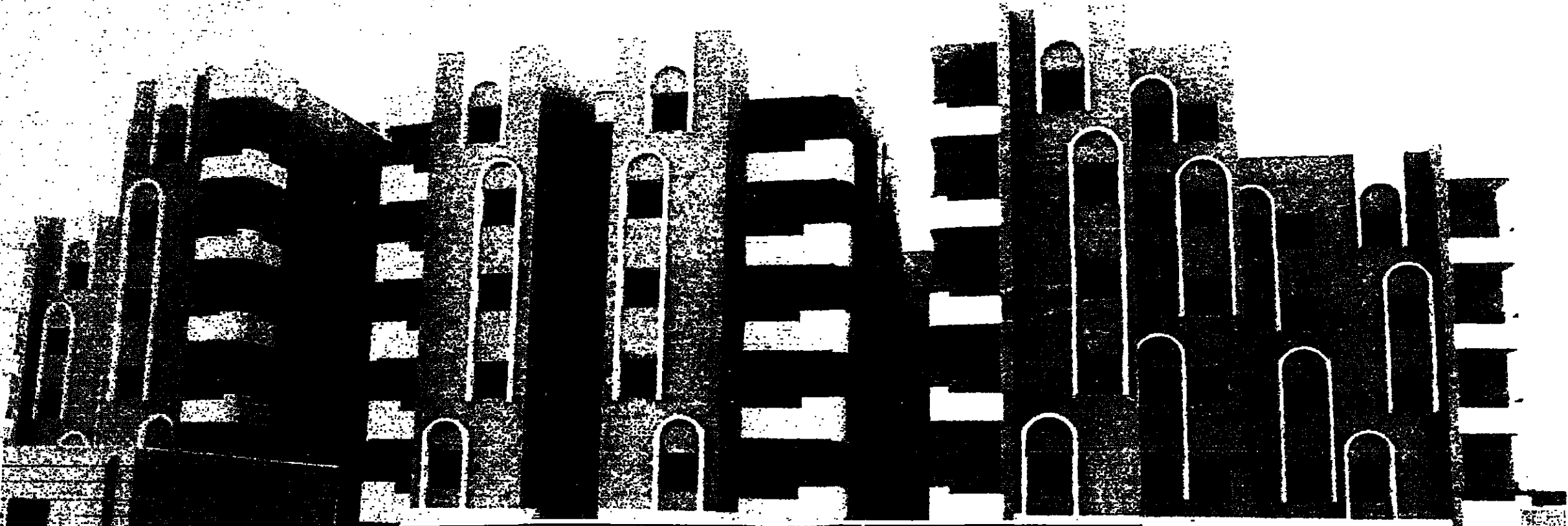
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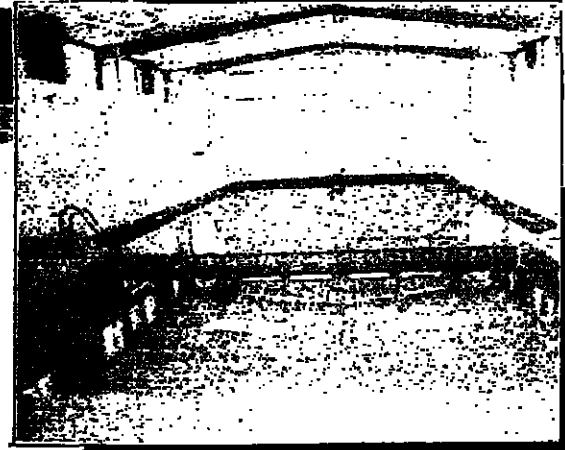
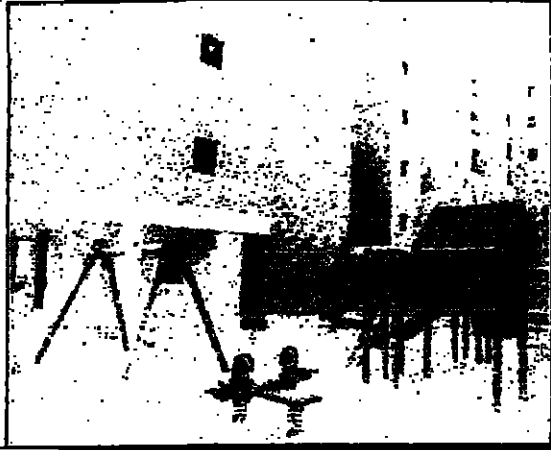
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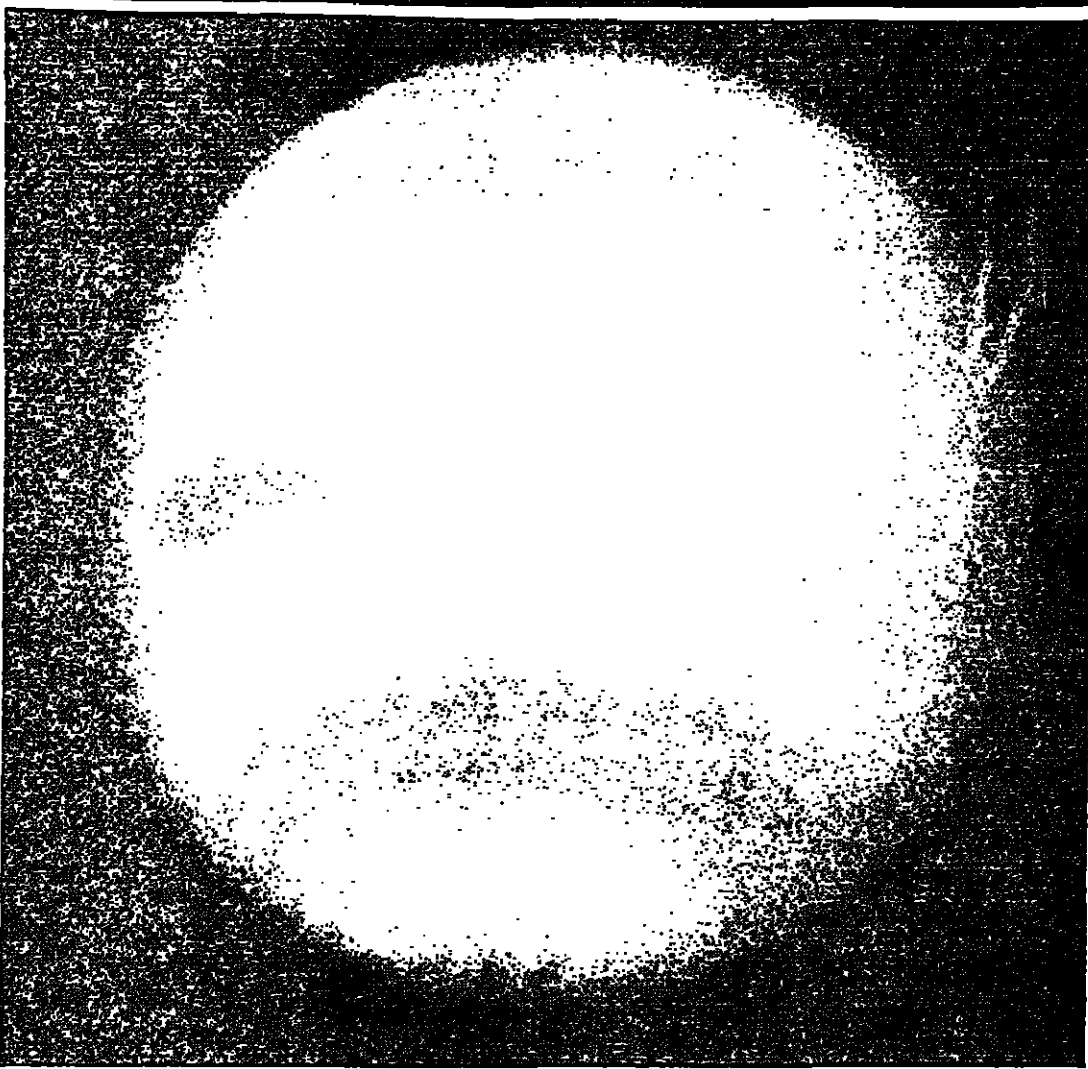


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Covered swimming pool, garden for children and other facilities.



View of Neptune as taken by Voyager 2 spacecraft. (Reuter wirephoto)

Voyager 2 sends Neptune's photos Ghost arc reappears

PASADENA, California, Aug. 22. (AP) Scientists have rediscovered the "ghost arc," a partial ring around Neptune that appeared in Voyager 2 photographs on Aug. 11 and subsequently disappeared.

A series of 16 photographs called the "arc movie" sent back by Voyager today as the satellite hurtles toward its Thursday bypass of Neptune provided the best views yet of the two ring arcs, said Kenneth Bollinger of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

"It looks like we're seeing the ghost arc — that's come back," Bollinger said in an interview. No new arcs have yet been discovered, but researchers were processing the pictures as Bollinger was speaking.

"We're not done yet," he said. "We've got another 10 or 15 to look at."

The ring arcs, unlike anything seen around the other planets, are composed of debris that could be the remnants of moons torn apart by gravitational forces or collisions, researchers said.

Voyager's observations of Neptune yesterday revealed a churning, turbulent atmosphere, with huge white clouds of frozen natural gas, and a string of storms trailing behind an earth-sized cyclone.

One small collection of clouds called the "scooter" is whirling around the planet's surface once every 16 hours, faster than anything else so far seen on Neptune, said Bradford Smith, head of the Voyager imaging team.

Photographs of the planet's biggest moon, Triton, show it is brighter, cooler and smaller than scientists had thought. Smith said the photos suggest Triton may be partly covered with snow and frozen water.

"It may show there from time to time," he said yesterday.

The pictures also show dark spots near Triton's equator and a pinkish cast that may be from discoloured frozen natural gas, or methane. Researchers had speculated that Triton might have oceans of liquid nitrogen, but Smith said any such oceans would have to be frozen over.

"Triton is an especially intriguing object," Smith said. "It's in the wrong orbit. It's going backwards around Neptune. Something truly catastrophic must have happened some time in its past."

Scientists believe Triton could have been a comet that collided with one of Neptune's moons because it rotates in the opposite direction from the planet, unlike most moons in the solar system.

Edward Stone, the Voyager project scientist, said such a collision could have slowed Triton enough to allow it to become trapped in a long, oval orbit around Neptune. As that orbit gradually became more circular, tidal forces would have caused the moon to heat, perhaps turning Triton into a ball of molten rock and water for one billion years, he said.

US plans shuttle rescue mission to save satellite

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22. (Reuters) The shuttle Columbia will make a dramatic bid to retrieve an 11-ton satellite that is slowly spiralling to Earth and whose invaluable research data would be lost if it is not saved, space officials said yesterday.

The satellite, launched by the space shuttle Challenger in April 1984, carries 57 experiments studying problems considered vital to the design of future spacecraft such as how materials hold up to intense changes in heat and radiation in space.

The satellite, known as LDEF and originally scheduled to orbit about one year, has no direct communication with Earth and no power system so it cannot raise its orbit and the data gathered will never be known unless the craft is retrieved.

"This is the first time we've run up to the reentry into Earth Date (of an errant satellite) this bad," said NASA scientist William Kinard. "If we don't retrieve the craft, all the information on it would be totally lost."

The National Aeronautics and Space

Administration also believes there is a slim chance debris travelling at hundreds of kilometres (miles) an hour could hit parts of the southern United States, Australia and Africa if the satellite breaks up.

The satellite, now about 265 miles above the Earth, is being pulled downward at a rate of six to nine kilometres per month.

Turbulent solar storms in recent months have accelerated the satellite's fall and at present speeds it would hit Earth in late January, space officials say.

Drug dealer implicates Raul Castro

MIAMI, Florida, Aug. 22. (UPI) Fidel Castro's brother was waiting at a Cuban military airfield where smugglers unloaded 528 pounds of cocaine bound for the United States, and his bodyguards asked the smugglers for marijuana, a convicted drug dealer told US prosecutors.

A Cuban MiG fighter plane escorted the drug plane to Varadero Air Force Base where Cuban Defence Minister Raul Castro was waiting in 1987, smuggler Reinhold Ruiz told prosecutors.

Ruiz, whose co-operation with US authorities apparently triggered the Cuban government's purge of 14 top

officials on drug charges this summer, was sentenced yesterday to 17 years in prison.

He admitted organising four cocaine flights that brought more than 2,200 pounds (990 kg) into the United States through Cuba, Haiti, and the Turks and Caicos islands. Ruiz said his son Ruben was flying the plane met by Raul Castro, the brother of the Cuban President.

Ruiz said Castro's bodyguards asked for marijuana but did not indicate whether they were given any.

"Ruiz' belief is that Raul Castro was part of it," US attorney Dexter Lehtinen said. "The fact that he saw him there is the

best of the evidence that he presents."

Ruiz, 51, could have been sentenced life without parole. US district judge Thomas Scott imposed the lighter sentence after prosecutor Thomas Mulvihill said Ruiz had provided valuable information about four smuggling groups operating in Cuba.

"Mr Ruiz, more than any other individual, has named narcotics groups involving high-ranking officials of the Cuban government," Mulvihill said. Ruiz has also named prominent Haitians, Mulvihill said.

Ruiz will be eligible for parole in December 1993 but will likely serve at least 10

years, said his lawyer, Fred Schwartz. Ruiz

was also fined \$1.1 million and sentenced to five years' probation.

He is expected to testify in several cases, Schwartz said.

The US attorney's office "is actively investigating all of Ruiz' allegations," Lehtinen said.

Ruiz was arrested in Panama in February 1988 and began co-operating with investigators in October, Schwartz said.

All the names he has named have been given to the State Department, Lehtinen said.

Bush may call summit on drugs

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Aug. 22. (UPI) President Bush is considering a summit of Western Hemisphere countries to co-ordinate international efforts to fight illegal drugs, White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said today.

Last spring, in a visit to Washington, Colombian President Virgilio Barco reiterated a plea that dates back to the Reagan administration that the United States host a Western Hemisphere summit to co-ordinate drug strategy.

Fitzwater said today that the plea is "under consideration, active consideration," but said he could give no indication when a decision would be reached.

Fitzwater said yesterday that Bush called Barco to "express his condolences" for the murder Friday of presidential candidate, Senator Luis Carlos Galan — the latest in a series of public officials to be executed by cocaine cartels — and to express support for Barco's actions to "restore law and order."

Fitzwater said Barco told Bush he had read "press speculation about use of US troops in Colombia" and "reaffirmed to the President that US troops would not be necessary."

Deputy White House Press Secretary Alix Glen said today that Bush did not offer military assistance in his phone conversation with Barco and that Barco did not request any "specific assistance."

She noted, however, that the Drug Enforcement Administration has long provided Colombia authorities help in the form of training, and that the Justice Department is now co-ordinating extradition efforts with Colombian officials.

Fitzwater said Bush, who Saturday vowed to work with Barco to extradite suspected traffickers to the United States to stand trial, "reiterated the United States' intention to render appropriate assistance as rapidly as possible."

Earlier yesterday, White House chief of staff John Sununu said Bush had made final decisions on a comprehensive anti-drug strategy that will include increased economic aid to Colombia and other South American nations and cost from \$7.5 billion to \$8 billion.

Bush is to announce the plan formally in a nationally televised speech Sept. 5, the day after he returns to Washington from a three-week vacation at his summer home on the coast of Maine.

Speaking with reporters while Bush played golf at a nearby course, Sununu said the President was reluctant to send any combat troops into Colombia, but, as a matter of administration policy, would consider such action if asked.

Sununu said: "I think the tradition in the Western Hemisphere has been a reluctance on the part of anybody to ask for troops and think there's a reluctance on part of the President to commit troops unless the situations are extreme."

Asked if conditions are indeed extreme, considering a series of drug-related slayings of three public officials, Sununu said: "The best people to determine (that)... are the Colombians themselves" and that to date they have asked for no combat troops.

■ Doubled US drug enforcement funding hasn't stemmed marijuana use in the United States and the budget could easily be cut in half, according to a study released yesterday by a Harvard University researcher.



Troops examine a house on a horse ranch, presumably owned by the accused Gacha. (Reuter wirephoto)



An Army officer walks out of a bathroom lined with Italian marble at the confiscated residence of Gacha, alias "The Mexican." (Reuter wirephoto)

Bogota arrests 14,000

Cartel: rich and ruthless

BOGOTA, Aug. 22. (Agencies) Security forces have arrested 14,000 suspected drug dealers seized 134 aircraft and about \$100 million in property in a crackdown on drug barons held responsible for a string of political assassinations.

Police interrogated witnesses and suspects in the killings last week of superior judge Carlos Valencia, Medellin police chief Valdemar Franklin Quintero and presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan.

Galan — like many other judges and journalists slain by suspected drug hitmen — had been a vocal critic of the cocaine cartels and was seeking extradition of traffickers to the United States when he was slain.

Defence Minister Gen Oscar Botero said yesterday more than 14,000 suspects have been arrested in 600 raids under a massive crackdown launched after the murder of Galan, but that the key barons had eluded authorities.

"The most important traffickers are either leaving the country or have gone into hiding. Sooner or later we will get them," the defence minister said. "Right now the important thing is to get their collaborators. And then eventually we'll get them."

President Virgilio Barco revived extradition mechanisms and invoked a state-of-siege decree in response to the killings. About 120 suspects are on a list of Colombians the United States wants to extradite for cocaine smuggling.

In Washington, Colombia asked a special session of the

Organisation of American States for international support for its crackdown on the narcotics industry.

In a draft resolution presented to the hastily called OAS session, the Bogota government informed the organisation of the recent wave of assassinations and called for "international solidarity" but did not ask for any specific action by the 31-nation OAS council or its member nations.

The US representative, William Pryce, suggested the United States might support military action against countries that harbour drug traffickers.

Bolivian officials appealed for international help in its crackdown on cocaine kingpins. In a statement from La Paz, the Bolivian Congress invited US lawmakers to help co-ordinate their anti-drug effort.

Empowered under a state of siege to make raids without a judicial order, more than 20,000 soldiers and police officers confiscated an estimated \$100 million in properties belonging to suspected drug barons such as Pablo Escobar and Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha.

As part of the dragnet, police confiscated lavish estates owned by Escobar in the city of Medellin as well as his zoo-ranch "El Napoles" with hippopotamuses, elephants and rare birds from Africa, 150 miles (240 km) north-west of Bogota.

The defence minister said police also took possession of four plush rural mansions owned by Rodriguez Gacha including a soccer club for children on the outskirts of Bogota.

The two groups are reported to be warring over the New York City drug market. About 200 members of the rival cartels have been reported killed in 18 months and scores of properties in Medellin and Cali have been bombed or shot up.

Profits from New York drug sales are estimated at \$35 billion a year, said Gen Jaime Ruiz Barrera, who spent two years as the military commander of Medellin.

Ruiz Barrera recently was sent to Washington as military attaché in an effort to protect him from killers hired by the cocaine barons. Assassinations attributed to them have occurred as far away as Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Hungary.

Colombian drug cartels are said to have financed the training of 2,000 hired assassins in association with extreme right-wing groups. The assassins are blamed for the deaths of Galan and many before him.

Cartel killers have terrorised the courts. They are blamed for the deaths of a justice minister, an attorney general and 220 judges and judicial aides since 1981, said judge Antonio Morales, president of the National Judicial Employees' Association.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Killer whale dies: A killer whale died after colliding with another killer whale during a performance at Sea World Marine Park, spewing blood from its blowhole in front of shocked spectators.

Kandu, who weighed about 6,000 pounds (2,720 kilograms), was in a 5 million-gallon (18.9-million-litre) performing tank when she collided with Corky, who weighs about 8,000 pounds (3,630 kilograms), during the yesterday afternoon show. Sea World officials said.

The show was cancelled and several thousand people in the audience who witnessed the bloody accident were escorted out of the stadium. Park officials said they did not know when the performances would resume.

Park veterinarians were to perform a necropsy on Kandu, who last September gave birth to baby Shamou.

Corky, who apparently was not seriously injured in the accident, completed part of a shortened performance afterward, witnesses said. (AP)

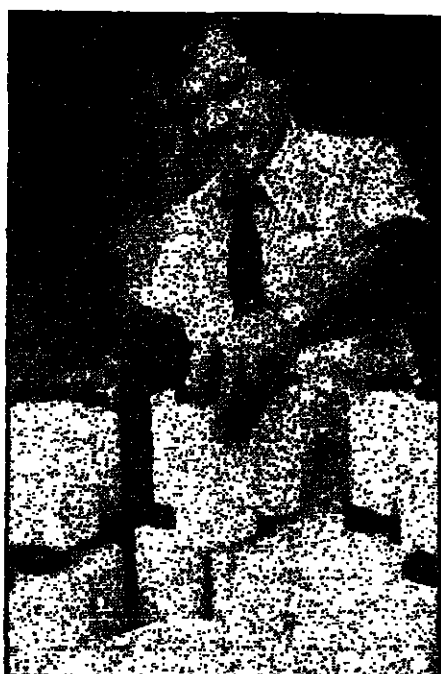
Couple found dead: The head of a leading Hollywood video entertainment company and his wife were found shot to death in their 4-million-home, police said yesterday. The motive was unknown.

The bodies of Joseph "Jose" Enrique Menendez, 45, and his wife, Maria "Kitty" Louise Menendez, 44, were found late Sunday in a front room by their sons, according to Lt. Bob Curtis.

Menendez was chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Live Entertainment Inc., an affiliate of Carolco Pictures Inc., a Carolco statement said. He also was an executive vice-president of Carolco and a member of Carolco's board of directors, said Carolco spokesman Thomas K. Levine.

Carolco is best known for producing the "Rambo" films starring Sylvester Stallone, which have been one of its major sources of income.

Menendez sons, Eric, 18, and Lyle, 21, reported the slayings to authorities shortly before midnight Sunday. Curtis said. Police who arrived less than two minutes later found the victims dead at the scene. They were in street clothes. (AP)



Ecstasy bottled

An Amsterdam drug squad police officer displays part of the 900,000 tablets of amphetamine drug "Ecstasy" which were found hidden in an Amsterdam flower shop. It's the world's biggest haul of its kind. (Reuter wirephoto)

Research setback: Britain's space scientists have received a new setback to their research plans, which are already undermined by spending cuts imposed last year in the UK, it was reported today.

The British government science and engineering research council has told them it is withdrawing from the European Space Agency's micro-gravity research programme, which would have cost the UK eight million pounds a year or five percent of the total programme.

The Times newspaper revealed today that a recommendation to abandon the venture was made in a report commissioned by the council. The decision resolves a dilemma for the council, which pays for basic research in universities in several fields. Without extra money from the government, support for the European project would mean cutting another traditional subject, the paper added. (KUNA)

Undergo checkup: First Lady Barbara Bush, still experiencing eye problems from a thyroid condition, will return to Washington today for a checkup. The White House said yesterday.

Mrs Bush, vacationing here with the president, was to fly to Washington this morning for a mid-day appointment at Walter Reed Army Hospital, said presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater.

The First Lady suffers from Graves disease, a thyroid imbalance diagnosed earlier this year. A side effect of the disorder is eye irritation.

Although she has undergone treatment for the problem, including radioactive iodine to shrink the thyroid, she continues to be troubled by the affliction.

In an interview last week with the Boston Globe newspaper, Mrs Bush said that she suffers from some double vision. (AP)

Gas bomb detonates: A gas canister concealed in a small package exploded in an office of America's largest black civil rights organisation yesterday, injuring 15 people including a four-month-old baby.

John Lewis, a black Democratic congressman for Atlanta, Georgia, said the attack appeared to be racially motivated and the FBI and Justice Department's civil rights division were investigating along with Atlanta police.

Eight of the 15 injured in the blast at an office of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People in Atlanta were taken to hospital. All the injured suffered various degrees of smoke inhalation.

Police said the military-type canister contained a caustic gas. It exploded when the NAACP's regional director, Earl Shihonster, and a secretary in his office opened a small parcel delivered in the day's mail. (Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL

OAU stance boosts ANC

HARARE, Aug 22. (Reuters) — African support for a tough negotiating strategy to end apartheid has boosted the position of the African National Congress (ANC) but may not have improved prospects for a quick negotiated settlement in South Africa.

A nine-page strategy document adopted by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in Harare yesterday mirrored the negotiating position of the ANC, the main guerrilla group fighting to end white minority rule in South Africa.

Zimbabwe President Kenneth Kaunda was expected to present the OAU position to acting South African President F.W. de Klerk when the two meet in Livingstone, Zambia, next Monday.

The OAU document appeared likely to disappoint Western governments, such as Britain and the United States, which might have hoped for a softer stance and more concessions from the ANC and its African backers to facilitate the negotiating process.

It repeated tough pre-conditions for dialogue with the South African government, did not recognise any change in attitude by South Africa's leaders towards apartheid and gave no hint that the ANC might cut back its guerrilla war against the government.

De Klerk has said he is committed to dismantling apartheid but has ruled out talks with anti-apartheid opposition groups unless they renounce violence.

Western leaders have praised De Klerk for his pledges on apartheid, saying he is a man who is ready to listen and talk.

ANC leaders said, however, the fact the OAU document strengthened their position it did not mean that negotiations were close.

Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets in running clashes with mixed-race coloured schoolchildren in Cape Town today and arrested 13 hospital workers staging an illegal picket in the city centre.

Clashes in the Cape Town area in the past three weeks have been the most persistent since a nationwide uprising was crushed two years ago by security forces acting with emergency powers.

Teachers at the Glendale School in Mitchell's Plain said police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse pupils gathering for an anti-apartheid rally.

"Some of the children hid in a woman's house. She locked them into a bedroom, but the police broke the door down and then they whipped the children as they came out," said a woman teacher who asked not to be named. "One girl was badly hurt."

She said police chased pupils through streets around the school and among houses.

In nearby Rylands, witnesses said police dispersed pupils with whips and tear gas after a school-hall protest against the exclusion of blacks from parliamentary elections on Sept 6.

School pupils burned three barricades of tyres in the early afternoon and witnesses said they saw police control units heading for points marked by columns of dense black smoke.

Namibia Stung by black African complaints that Pretoria is trying to rig Namibia's elections, South Africa yesterday asked why the Security Council doesn't look into alleged human rights abuses by Namibian guerrillas.

Angola: Eight African leaders met in Harare today in a bid to shore up a faltering ceasefire in Angola and save a Zairean-brokered peace pact from collapse.

Since Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi shook hands on an historic peace deal in Gbadolite, Zaire, on June 22, the process has been disrupted by violations of the truce and disputes over peace terms.

Cuba's President Fidel Castro says attacks by UNITA rebels may slow the withdrawal of his 50,000 Cuban soldiers from Angola, according to a letter released yesterday.

If the Cuban withdrawal is hampered, it could endanger the UN-monitored plan for Namibia's independence from South African rule, which hinges on agreements reached last year in delicate negotiations among Cuba, South Africa and Angola.

Zimbabwe Unidentified attackers fired grenades and bullets at a South African Army unit patrolling the country's border with Zimbabwe, the military said today.

There were no injuries in last night's incident near the South African town of Messina.

Lanka crisis will end soon, hopes India

NEW DELHI, Aug 22. (Reuters) — India has high hopes a deal will be struck soon to end the serious dispute with Sri Lanka over when Indian troops should leave the island, senior officials said today.

"The agreement that has emerged from our discussions is straightforward

and enables (Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe) Premadasa to claim all the credit," said one.

"The ball is in his court, but from our point of view it's hard to see how he can turn it down," the official said.

"With luck, we'll be able to announce a final agreement in a few

days."

The officials said that in extensive talks with Sri Lankan officials this month, the main elements of a deal emerged that ought to meet the political difficulties each side faces.

Premadasa is under fierce assault from leftwing guerrillas of the People's

Liberation Front, the JVP, drawn chiefly from the Sinhalese majority, who are determined to bring him down.

The JVP launched a campaign against the government for what it saw as subservience to "imperialist India" when New Delhi sent troops to Sri Lanka two years ago under an accord

designed to end a rebellion by ethnic Tamils in the north.

The Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) has lost more than 1,000 men fighting against Tamil Tiger guerrillas.

Premadasa was elected in late 1988 on a platform that included sending the remaining 45,000 Indians home. He

provoked a serious crisis with Delhi in June by demanding they leave by the end of July.

A token withdrawal by the deadline cleared the way for talks after Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi refused to order a hasty pull-out, saying the safety of Tamils would be at risk.



Buddhist monks from Ladakh, surrounded by police, wave their fists in protest outside the Kashmir Government House in New Delhi today. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kashmir to censor press

SRINAGAR, India, Aug 22. (Reuters) — India's Jammu and Kashmir state, wracked by violent civil strife, proposed a tough law today to censor local reporting of its troubles.

Law Minister Sheikh Mohammad Maqbool told the state assembly in the summer capital Srinagar the bill would cover any news regarded as prejudicial to public order or security.

Though the constitution guaranteed freedom of the press, he said, reasonable restrictions were allowed in the interests of state security.

Local journalists and correspondents of

national dailies condemned the legislation as an onslaught on the freedom of the press and said they would challenge it in court.

"The government seems bent upon gagging the mouth of the press which has been very bold in exposing the wrongdoings of some of its ministers and various government agencies," said Gulam Nabi Shaida, editor of the Urdu daily Wadi Ki Awaz.

Kashmir, India's only Muslim-dominated state, has been in turmoil for months with secessionist groups waging a violent gun and bomb campaign against what they call Indian

occupation.

In recent days the guerrillas appear to have changed tactics by directly attacking leading members of the ruling National Conference and its Congress (I) allies.

Yesterday a senior National Conference worker was killed in the narrow streets of old Srinagar, apparently provoking the press clampdown.

"I swear by his blood that I will not sit idle until the murderers are nabbed," Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah told the assembly after the killing.

Rajiv goes vote hunting

Confident

HYDERABAD, India, Aug 22. (AP) — Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, flew to south India and became Rajiv Gandhi, as he hopped by helicopter across friendly and hostile political turf as part of his upcoming re-election bid.

With a forceful voice and blistering rhetoric at odds with his congenial appearance, he denounced those who seek to oppose him as relics of a feudal past, consorting with traitors and assassins, and potential instigators of religious wars.

In less than five years, Rajiv has grown from political novice to confident campaigner as he seeks to perpetuate the family dynasty. It began in 1947 when his grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru, became India's first prime minister as the vast Asian subcontinent was freed from British colonial rule.

The Nehru-Gandhi family domination of the prime ministry has been interrupted only twice, for a total of three years.

It was personified and perpetuated by Nehru's daughter, the charismatic and iron-willed Indira Gandhi, whose 1984 assassination propelled Rajiv Gandhi, an average student and ex-airline pilot, into the leadership of the world's largest democracy.

The young man who rode to victory on a wave of sympathy for his mother's death is now, at age 45, being put to the test of harsher political realities.

Under Indian law, he must call elections no later than Jan 4. At last count, the elections commission was considering applications of 216 parties or would-be parties that are seeking places on the ballot.

The problem for the opposition — and the advantage for Rajiv — is that the closest thing to a well-organized national political party in India in the Congress Party he inherited from his grandfather and mother.

The next-best thing at the moment is the Janata Dal, or National Front, an ever-shifting alliance of about half a dozen parties or movements constantly at war within itself.

It was against the Janata Dal that Rajiv came out swinging in 13 speeches during a 31-hour swing across the south Indian states of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh last Friday and Saturday.

To be sure, Rajiv has been trading barbs with Janata Dal president Viswanath Pratap Singh, his former defence and finance minister, for about three years. But he now has launched a frontal attack on N.T. Rama Rao, the Janata Dal's chairman.

The very fact that Janata Dal has a president, a chairman and a "collective leadership" is indicative of the ego-stroking that has been done to muster it together.

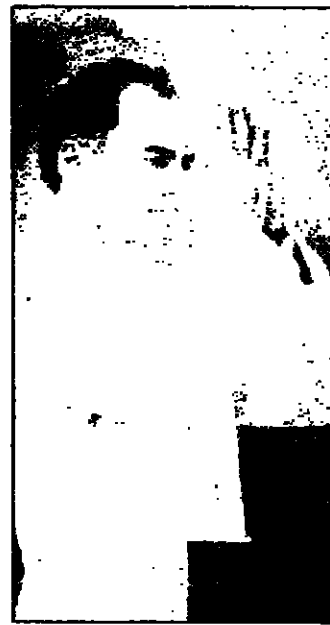
One of the biggest egos belongs to Rama Rao, Andhra Pradesh's chief minister, or top elected official. But more importantly in a country where the electorate's literacy rate hovers around 40 per cent, Rama Rao is a movie star of mythical proportion who has portrayed just about every major deity in the Hindu pantheon. He is timing the release of his next film for the election campaign.

Rama Rao, who routinely dresses in facial paint and bright orange robes invocatory of the gods he portrays so majestically, is also the leader of Telegu Desam, a political party operating only in Andhra Pradesh.

The efficacy of Indian opposition parties is demonstrated by the fact that this purely regional party won the second-largest bloc of national Parliament seats in the 1984 election: 30 to the Rajiv party's 415 in the 544-seat, policy-making lower house.

In speeches to Congress Party rallies — officially scheduled as "public meetings" — in four economically depressed Andhra Pradesh towns, Rajiv accused Rama Rao's state government of corruption, exploitation of the poor and failure to provide protection from a murky Maoist band known as Naxalites.

By the time he got to Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh's state capital, seated beside Rama Rao at a news conference, Rajiv repeated some of the same charges. When a reporter tried to ask Rama Rao a question, the head of the prime minister's information office, Gopalaswami Parthasarathy, stepped forward to say: "This is not a joint press conference."



Rajiv: campaign

Troops kill 9 as devils dance

COLOMBO, Aug 22. (Agencies) — Troops raided a suspected rebel hideout in southern Sri Lanka during a devil dance ceremony and killed at least nine people, including a drummer playing for the dancers.

Military sources said people at the ceremony — often held in rural areas to drive away evil spirits — switched off the lights when troops surrounded Walasala village in Matara district yesterday. Some villagers opened fire and the soldiers retaliated.

Most of those killed were suspected members of the People's Liberation Front, (JVP), a left-wing group fighting to overthrow the government, they said.

One source said Sunil Ekanayake, a local front leader who organised the event, escaped after being wounded. A government statement said six people were wounded.

A government statement said today that 30 people, including a Buddhist monk, were killed in violence across Sri Lanka in the past 24 hours.

It said four members of a policeman's family and a soldier were among 22 killed by rebels.

Security forces found another eight unidentified bodies on the roadside.

Police said suspected rebels threw bombs at a police vehicle in central Colombo today injuring one officer.

Police later said the charred remains of a further 10 unidentified people were found today in a pit at Athurugiriya, just south of Colombo.

They said over 2,000 people were detained by troops in a three-day sweep of Front areas after rebels threatened to kill families of security men who did not resign by Aug 20.

Security forces responded to the death threat by putting up posters in Colombo and the provinces saying similar action would be taken against families of Front members.

Apart from its battle with the Front, the government is also struggling with a continuing Tamil separatist campaign in the north of the country.

Indian troops are on the island to support a 1987 pact that was supposed to stop the violence there, but the Indian high commission said today 18 Tamil guerrillas had been killed and 11 more detained in clashes with Indian troops in the past few days.

"The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrillas continue to step up violent activities despite peace efforts by the Sri Lankan and Indian governments," said a statement.

Among those killed were political and district leaders of the Tigers, it said. The separatist group is currently holding peace talks with Colombo officials.

In its press release, the Indian high commission said that in the past few days 18 Tigers had been shot dead, including LTTE Jaffna district political leader Kandasswamy and political leader of Killinochchi, Vannan. Among those wounded was Upali, LTTE leader of Palai in Jaffna peninsula.

The press release also said that as many as 11 militants, including group leader Vijaykumar alias Vijayan of Lankantai in Trincomalee district, had been captured by the Indians.

The high commission said: "The LTTE high command has been goading the LTTE militants in Batticaloa district to carry out some action or other for a long time. An effort by Ravi group in Mankerni in Batticaloa district in this regard came to a naught when troops (Indian) killed LTTE cadres Tharan and wounded five others.

An Indian battalion of 600 soldiers returned home yesterday from the northern port of Kankesanthurai, officials said.

So far more than 2,500 soldiers out of the 45,000 stationed in Sri Lanka have left since Colombo set a July 29 deadline for their withdrawal.

Since then Colombo and New Delhi have been discussing a new timetable for pulling out the troops, who are enforcing a pact designed to end a Tamil separatist campaign.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gesture of goodwill

NEW DELHI, Aug 22. (UPI) — Nigerian Foreign Minister Maj. Gen. L.O.S. Nwachukwu today announced the waiver of a \$31.5 million bond Lagos had placed on an Air India jet impounded in 1987 when it was found to be carrying heroin.

"This is being done as a gesture of goodwill and for facilitating all round improvement in bilateral relations," Nwachukwu explained during a press conference at the end of an official visit.

Nigerian authorities impounded the Air India 747 in 1987 when they discovered concealed aboard the aircraft 32 kilograms of heroin.

No arrests were made, but negotiations lasted at least two months before India pledged to pay a \$31.5 million bond for release of the craft belonging to the state-owned carrier. New Delhi then cancelled airlinks with Lagos and apparently did not pay.

Complaint lodged

WASHINGTON, Aug 22. (KUNA) — India has lodged a complaint with the United States stating that 100,000 metric tons of corn it received under a US aid programme was tainted with aflatoxin, reported the Wall Street Journal today.

According to the journal, India's complaint could exacerbate an already touchy trade issue. US government and industry officials have been concerned for months that fears of aflatoxin in US grain could damage exports. To reassure foreign buyers, some farm state congressmen are studying legislation that would require testing of all exported corn.

Aflatoxin, an exceptionally potent carcinogen, is manufactured by a fungus during hot and dry weather. The 1988 drought in the Midwest, as well as a drought this year in South Texas, sparked outbreaks of the poison. Federal grain inspectors don't routinely inspect exports for aflatoxin but have tested much of the corn leaving US ports since last autumn upon the request of many countries.

US plane fire

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 22. (AP) — A fire erupted today in the cabin of a United Airlines 727 shortly after takeoff, but it was quickly doused and the plane returned safely to the San Francisco airport, the airport tower reported.

"The plane was reported to have a fire in the after part of the cabin," said tower spokesman Joe Pitts, adding that he understood it was extinguished before the plane returned to the ground.

The plane had just taken off for Los Angeles when the emergency happened. It turned around near San Jose, a few minutes out of San Francisco, and landed back in San Francisco about 9 am (1600 GMT) and taxied to the gate, Pitts said.

Delayed landing

CHICAGO, Aug 22. (AP) — A United Airlines jet briefly circled Chicago's O'Hare airport today while technicians checked for problems with the landing gear after a report that something fell off the plane during takeoff, a United spokesman said.

Flight 204, which carried 100 passengers and six crew members, departed from Tri City airport in Freehold, Michigan, at 6:30 am CDT (1230 GMT) bound for Chicago and landed without incident at O'Hare about two hours later. United spokeswoman Sara Dornacker said.

Quake hits Taiwan

TAIPEI, Aug 22. (AP) — A strong earthquake in the Pacific ocean shook areas of Taiwan today, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, the Central Weather Bureau said.

The earthquake, which struck at 7:12 am local time (2312 GMT) Monday, registered 5.7 on the Richter scale, the bureau said. Its epicentre was in the Pacific ocean, about 88 kms (55 miles) east of the coastal city of Hualien, officials said.



Where is he!

A grieving family member of one of the Ethiopian victims of the plane crash that killed US Congressman Mickey Leland is held during ceremonies at Addis Ababa airport.

The bodies of Leland and eight other Americans who died in the plane crash in Ethiopia two weeks ago were on their way home yesterday after a memorial service.

The coffins of the nine Americans draped in US flags were loaded onto a C-141 after a two-hour ceremony and left Ethiopia's international airport shortly after noon.

Leland, the other Americans and seven Ethiopians died Aug 7 on their way to a refugee camp along Ethiopia's southwestern border when their twin-engine plane slammed into a mountain. All 16 on board are believed to have died instantly. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tropical storm

MIAMI, Aug 22. (UPI) — Erin, the fifth tropical storm of the season, was upgraded to a hurricane today after a ship passing through the storm in the mid-Atlantic clocked its top winds at 75 mph (120 kph), forecasters said.

"We got a little better data. Based on the satellite pictures, we thought it was going along at 45 mph (72 kph), tropical storm strength. But a ship apparently went through the centre and said it was stronger than our satellite data suggested," said Jack Beven, a forecaster at the National Hurricane Centre outside of Miami.

At 10 am EDT (1400 GMT), the centre of the hurricane was estimated near latitude 28.7 north, longitude 44.7 west, or about 1,100 miles (1,770 km) southwest of the Azores. "Right now it is no threat to land," Beven said.

Erin was moving north-northwest near 17 mph (27 kph) and expected to continue that motion through today.

Yacht in trouble

SUVA, Fiji, Aug 22. (AP) — Rescue authorities today said they were tracking a yacht in trouble on the south Pacific after its skipper was lost overboard, leaving his wife and two young children to battle heavy seas.

New Zealand's Richard Johnson was swept of the "Illusion" yesterday en route from Auckland to Fiji, said Saula Tuikoro, director of maritime surveillance.

The man's wife was struggling to sail the craft in heavy seas with winds of between 20 and 25 knots. She was accompanied by her children, aged 4 and 6.

Pre-firing tests

WASHINGTON, Aug 22. (KUNA) — It appears someone failed to perform one or more complex pre-firing tests before a huge gun turret blew up on the US battleship Iowa, defence sources said today.

In the April 19 incident, 47 crewmen were killed when bags of gunpowder used to propel the Iowa's 2,000-pound shells apparently detonated in a gun breach.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, Pentagon officials and former Iowa crewmen told the Washington Post that the maintenance procedure on the ship was lax.

Call to convene Pak NA

ISLAMABAD, Aug 22. (KUNA) — The combined opposition party in the Parliament today demanded an urgent convening of the National Assembly to hold debate on a number of national issues of urgent importance.

Presided over by Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, leader of the opposition in the National Assembly, the COP meeting listed the issues as confrontation between the federal government and the Punjab government and the federal government and the Baluchistan government and "deteriorating law and order situation in the country in general and in Sind Province in particular."

It also demanded immediate convening of council of national interests to settle disputes among the four provinces.

Prominent among those who attended the meeting included Pakistan Democratic Party president Nasrullah Khan, Awami National Party chief Abdul Wali Khan and secretary-general of the Jamiat Ulema Islam Maulana Fazlur Rahman.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan returned home today after a 5-day visit to Tehran, Damascus and Amman during which he met top leaders of the three countries.

In Tehran he held talks with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, in Damascus he met with President Hafez al Assad and Foreign Minister Farouq al Shara and in Amman he held discussion with Crown Prince Hasan Bin Talal, Prime Minister Zaid Bin Shaker and Foreign Minister Marwan al Qasem.

Maldivé coup plotters appeal against death sentences

COLOMBO, Aug 22. (Reuters) — Twelve Sri Lankans and four Maldivians have appealed against death sentences imposed for an unsuccessful attempt to overthrow the Maldives government last November.

Official sources in the capital Male said today President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom was considering the pleas.

Fifty-nine other Sri Lankans and Maldivians involved in the failed coup were given terms ranging from 11 years to 38 years jail when the four-month trial ended on Aug 13.

In the failed coup on Nov 3, about 300 armed Sri

Lankan Tamils arrived by boat and attacked Male. A force of 1,500 Indian paratroopers put down the coup after Gayoom appealed for help. Seventeen people were killed in the attack.

The Maldives government blamed the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam guerrilla group for the incident. The Sri Lankan group denied it was involved.

The Maldives is an archipelago of 1,196 tiny coral islands in the Indian Ocean with a population of 200,000. Some islands have become flourishing tourist resorts.

'Communists could face oblivion'

WARSAW, Aug. 22. (AP): The Communist Party could "lose everything" if it presses too hard for power in Poland's new Solidarity-led government, union chief Lech Walesa said yesterday.

The communist risk consigning itself to political oblivion if it does not recognise realities, he said.

The strongly-worded exchange between the communists and Walesa represented Prime Minister-designate Tadeusz Mazowiecki's first political challenge as he begins forming the East bloc's first non-communist-headed government.

The communist central committee, in a resolution published late Sunday, said it would not support Mazowiecki unless it was given a number of government posts that "correspond to its state and political potential."

While not mentioning a specific number, it was clear from the resolution that the party wants more than just the defence and interior portfolios being offered so far by Solidarity. A party journalist has mentioned at least the foreign and finance ministries.

Polish reds want bigger slice of cake

WARSAW, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Poland's Communist Party stepped up demands for a big share of power in Solidarity-led government today and threatened not to join the coalition unless the once-banned union changed its policies.

The party newspaper Trybuna Ludu said the party could carry no responsibility unless Solidarity announced a coherent reform programme and gave communists a major government role.

It rejected charges by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa that the party was using blackmail by threatening not to co-operate with the union,

which is on the verge of breaking the party's 45-year grip on power.

"Solidarity's policy declarations as the opposition have been so incoherent and unstable that they cannot be accepted as the basis of a government programme," the editorial said.

"We want to know what type of government we are going to take part in before Parliament nominates the new prime minister. We want to know the government programme," it said.

President Wojciech Jaruzelski asked Solidarity newspaper editor Tadeusz Mazowiecki last Saturday to form a government.

Poland's Parliament has agreed to vote

tomorrow on whether to confirm Mazowiecki as prime minister and end a three-week crisis over forming a government.

Tadeusz Fiszbach, deputy parliamentary speaker, told reporters the vote was scheduled during a meeting of parliamentary leaders.

Mazowiecki said his government will uphold its commitments to the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact military alliance.

"The government that I will form will have relations with all the countries of the pact and will uphold its alliances," he said in an interview with the French newspaper Le Monde published today.

But Walesa said in a statement

issued through aides that the communists should abandon "threats and blackmail" and instead build popular support with a programme of "deep reforms, both political and economic, which society will undoubtedly appreciate."

Mazowiecki took a tactful approach in an interview with state radio yesterday.

"I think we should be mutually open to each other and aim at a situation that no relations of aggression take place between us," he said.

Walesa, in an interview with

the Associated Press, warned the party not to be too pushy.

"They should not fight for keeping their posts anymore," Walesa said at national union headquarters in Gdansk. He urged the party to "understand what these times mean."

"If they play the fool they can lose even more. They will be rejected," he said.

The Solidarity chairman said Mazowiecki might offer additional seats to the communists because the government will need "wise people." But he said

the movement would not buckle

if the party tried to take those offices "by force."

"We need reforms," Walesa said. "If the party does not understand that, and starts provocations and only provoking — and they are now — then it will lose everything."

Journalist Daniel Passent, editor of Rakowski's former party-linked newspaper Polityka, said in an interview yesterday with the British Broadcasting Corp. that the party probably would ask for the powerful ministries of foreign affairs and fin-

ance, in addition to defence and

internal affairs.

In demanding more cabinet seats, the communist central committee said in a statement Sunday night that its "support for the new government is conditioned on reaching agreement on its programme platform and political structure."

Polish communist historians blamed the Soviet Union today for the massacre of thousands of Polish officers in World War Two in the latest sign of official impatience at Moscow's refusal to acknowledge the crime.

Estonians criticise Soviet - Nazi pact

TALLINN, Aug. 22. (Agencies): Estonians criticised Moscow yesterday on the eve of a mass protest to mark the 50th anniversary of a Nazi-Soviet pact they say cost the three Baltic republics their sovereignty.

In all, up to a half million Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians are expected to form a line tomorrow snaking 600 miles (965 km) along the rail railway line through parts of the three republics.

"This will be a small protest against a historical injustice to show that a small people still exists," said Enn Laur, 39, who manages a hotel co-operative in Tallinn, capital of the Estonian republic.

Estonians say the non-aggression pact signed in Rucina, a Latvian border town, in 1939 by the Soviet and Nazi foreign ministers — Vyacheslav Molotov and Joachim von Ribbentrop — deprived them of their sovereignty.

After the pact was signed, Soviet troops occupied the three Baltic nations and annexed them in 1940. Their incorporation has not been recognised by the United States.

Estonian newspapers published lists of names, with instructions on who to call to find out where to stand in the line that will stretch from Tallinn to Riga, Latvia and then on to Kaunas, the old capital of Lithuania.

Organisers have divided the Estonian republic into 25 zones and each person will occupy 3 feet (1 m). Molotov and Ribbentrop will be burned in effigy tomorrow night in Rucina, where the pact was signed, the organisers said.

The Estonian Popular Front, which has organised the event, said plans call for the participants not to link hands but instead to raise their arms in protest against what the Baltics call the "black day" of their history.

Candles will be placed in the windows of all Estonian homes during the night, and Baltic communities all over the world have been called on the same night to rally for the return of independence to the three tiny republics.

"Everybody wants to feel they are masters in their own home," said Margus Bubert, 29, whose wife was expecting a baby tomorrow. "It is just a feeling of pride in our country, in our nation, our language. This is not nationalism. There is nothing wrong with it."

"The Russians have lived here for 40 years, and they can't speak a word of Estonian, but they want us to speak Estonian."

"The Russians think they brought us freedom. They were taught this in school. They don't know any better. It is just propaganda to show how great the Soviet system is."

Poland's ruling Communist Party Politburo also today condemned a 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact which carved up Poland as invalid and a violation of international law.

"These agreements flagrantly violated universally approved principles of international law," the Politburo said in a statement one day before the pact's 50th anniversary.

A parliamentary commission in Soviet Lithuania today denounced the Red Army's occupation of the republic in 1940 and said a vote by its parliament to join the Soviet Union was invalid.

Sofia raps Ankara for border closure

Bulgaria offers talks on crisis

SOFIA, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Bulgaria accused Turkey today of playing "a dirty political game" by closing its border to stem an exodus of ethnic Turks, but said it was ready to discuss the problem with Ankara.

The Communist Party daily Rabnotnichesko Delo said Ankara's decision to close its border with Bulgaria from early today negated Turkish assurances that it would accept all ethnic Turks who wanted to leave Bulgaria.

"No country in the world would claim that it is somebody's homeland while closing its border to them," it said.

"To those who mastermind and carry out the unprecedented anti-

Bulgarian campaign, these people are merely pawns in a dirty political game."

"As to the real problems in Bulgaro-Turkish relations, both the ones inherited from the past and the newly arisen ones, Bulgaria is ready to discuss them at all levels," the paper wrote.

"There is a single condition for this: That the negotiations be held without preconditions, that no unilateral moves be undertaken such as the Turkish government's latest decision which escalate tensions and cause additional difficulties."



Prague police dragging away one of more than 2,000 demonstrators protesting on 21st anniversary of Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia. (Reuters wirephoto)

Prague protesters held

Czechs see foreign hand

PRAGUE, Aug. 22. (Agencies): The Communist Party today blamed foreign "provocateurs" for protests on the anniversary of the 1968 Soviet-led invasion and said 370 people, including 50 foreigners, were detained when riot police broke up thousands of demonstrators.

Police were seen beating several of those detained during yesterday's defiant protest for more freedom and a withdrawal of the Soviet troops, which rolled in to crush communist reforms 21 years ago.

The fate of the foreigners, said by diplomats to include Hungarians, Poles, Italians and two Austrian cameramen, was unknown this morning. Czechoslovak media earlier warned they would face punishment under valid national laws.

Besides the hundreds of people detained yesterday dozens of well-known activists were taken into preventive detention before and during the weekend, Charter 77 spokeswoman Dana Nemcova said.

Nemcova said plainclothes police who placed her and her son David under house arrest early Sunday left late last night.

Two other prominent activists, Peter Uhl and Anna Sabatova, were still not at home by noon today.

Most leading human rights campaigners were warned to get out of Prague and other big cities over the anniversary. Some, including banned playwright Vaclav Havel, had advised against street demonstrations, fearing tough police action and unnecessary bloodshed.

But the protests went ahead anyway, showing that

young Czechoslovaks and activists wanting reform will not be deterred by the authorities' refusal to adopt the changes now seen in neighbouring Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union.

The Interior Ministry said there were no injuries although witnesses reported many people were beaten.

But in comparison with police action against week-long protests in January, anti-riot forces showed restraint.

The Soviet Ambassador to Prague, Viktor Lomakin, met Foreign Minister Jarmir Johanes on Friday and Western diplomats presumed they discussed the handling of the protests.

US national security adviser Brent Scowcroft also urged Prague to avoid violence.

Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock, speaking in Vienna, condemned what he called the "aggressive behaviour" of Czechoslovakia's police and said the detention of two Austrian cameramen violated the Helsinki accords on human rights.

Hungarian Consul Lajos Taba said he had received phone calls indicating nine Hungarians had been detained. Polish press attaché Krzysztof Opalski said Czechoslovak Radio reported three Poles held but that Prague's Foreign Ministry had given no details by noon.

Italy delivered a strong protest to the Czechoslovaks today over the treatment of two Italian journalists, who were both roughed up and had their cameras damaged by police.

Papal adjustment

In the shadow of an 8th-century shrine and just a few metres from Spanish royalty, Pope John Paul II urged Spain to maintain its Roman Catholic tradition in the rapidly changing post-Franco society.

The pontiff's appeal at a mass yesterday was representative of his third trip to Spain, which has emphasised rejuvenation of that tradition.

The country has undergone rapid social and economic change since the 1975 death of dictator Francisco Franco, who wanted Spain to be "a spiritual reserve of the West."

The Pope travelled to Santiago de Compostela, a major pilgrimage site, and to Asturias, the northern region from which Christian armies began taking Spain back from the Muslims in the 8th century.

Pope appears weary as he adjusts his Papal cap during the mass yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sailors killed: Two sailors were killed and a third was injured after an explosion ripped through a Soviet minesweeper in the Black Sea and sank it, the Army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda said today.

The Soviet Defence Ministry declined to give details of Saturday's accident.

The newspaper said: "The cause of the explosion is not known so far. The Black Sea fleet's rescue service is working to raise the minesweeper." (Reuters)

Unfit for swimming: More than a third of the sea around Italy is unfit for swimming, environmentalists said today.

The Environment League said 37 per cent of samples taken by its members along the Adriatic and Tyrrhenian coasts over the past two months contained bacteria, sewage and chemicals above levels set by the Italian Health Ministry.

Inefficient water purification plants, particularly in small towns swelled by large numbers of summer tourists, were mainly to blame. (Reuters)

Suicide suspected: A Spanish manufacturer whose fireworks blew up a car, killing eight people, fell to his death from his home today and police said they suspected suicide.

Police had released factory owner Joaquin Rigal Martinez after questioning him about Saturday's blast in a crowded supermarket car park in this Mediterranean tourist town.

Rigal's son had been taking a car loaded with fireworks to a wedding party. He was among those killed. Police said the explosion was an accident. (Reuters)

Only reform will halt exodus: Kohl

East German shot dead

BONN, Aug. 22. (AP): Chancellor Helmut Kohl warned East Germany today that it must accept democratic reforms like those sweeping Hungary and Poland if it wants to halt the exodus of disillusioned workers to the West.

More than 2,000 East Germans have escaped in recent weeks, and the diplomatic crisis evolving between the two Germanys over the defections intensified today after a man attempting to flee with his wife and daughter was shot to death by Hungarian border guard earlier today.

Bonn's Foreign Ministry demanded an explanation from Budapest and assurances that armed force would not be used against East Germans attempting to flee through the newly relaxed border between Hungary and Austria.

Kohl returned to the capital after a three-week vacation in Austria and immediately addressed the refugee issue that has strained ties with East Berlin and flooded West German embassies in neighbouring countries with hundreds of escapees.

More than 65,000 East Germans have made their way to West Germany so far this year, through legal emigration and

illegal flight through Hungary. Many claim they had lost hope that East Germany's rigid system will change under the leadership of Erich Honecker.

Frustrated by the Communist Party's refusal to loosen its grip on power, East Germans have found a new escape route this summer through Hungary, which began dismantling its iron curtain with the West in May.

Travel visas to Hungary are relatively easy for East Germans to obtain from their government. But as Hungarian authorities still require that East Germans have exit visas to cross into Austria, those seeking to escape have fled across rural boundaries under cover of darkness.

The Hungarian news agency MTI reported today that an East German identified as Kurt Werner Schulz was shot to death after a confrontation with a Hungarian border guard who intercepted his escape attempt.

The victim's wife and six-year-old daughter were detained.

West Germany today announced it was shutting down its embassy in Prague to prevent an overflow of refugees — the third West German mission in the East Bloc to be closed in two weeks.

Man under probe: A man was being questioned by British police this morning after a full-scale anti-terrorist operation at London's Gatwick airport.

Two members of the public alerted police last night after hearing shots near the busy south terminal, the British media reported this morning.

The couple said they had seen a man in camouflage clothing running off into the undergrowth.

Part of the airport was sealed off with a helicopter and tracker dogs searching the area.

Later an unnamed man was arrested, but police continued with their search. (KUNA)

Retrial urged: Amnesty International yesterday called on the West African nation of Liberia to retry a former government minister sentenced to death.

On Friday, a court martial found Liberia's former Defence Minister, Maj. Gen. Gray Allison, guilty of the murder of a policeman whose blood was to be used for a ritual aimed at toppling President Samuel Doe.

Amnesty International bases its claims on Liberian government news reports and previous incidents it said led the group to believe Allison's human rights may have been violated. (AP)

Wants to step down: Karoly Grosz, the general secretary of Hungary's ruling Communist Party, was quoted again today as saying he wants to step down, but without specifying when.

Grosz had said previously that he wanted to quit after next year's elections, to be held by June. Another party official brought up the subject of Grosz's departure again Sunday at a rally.

In an interview with the party daily Nepszabadsag, Grosz also publicly admitted for the first time that there is a power struggle going on within the party. (AP)

Ozal to meet: Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal will meet Greece's New Democracy Party leader Constantine Mitsotakis this week to review bilateral ties, a Turkish deputy said today.

They were expected to meet on Friday during the August 24-26 convention of the European Democratic Union (EDU) to be held in the Turkish Mediterranean city of Antalya, Bulent Akarcali, deputy for Ozal's Motherland Party told Reuters.

The meeting of EDU, a union of Europe's conservative and liberal parties, will bring together party leaders and deputies from 14 countries, he said. (AP)

Swiss appeal: The Red Cross and the Swiss government appealed today for an end to violations of the Geneva Conventions drawn up to lessen the terror of war.

Cornelio Sommaruga, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) which is charged with monitoring the implementation of the conventions, appeared to direct his remarks mainly at Iran and Iraq.

"Tens of thousands of prisoners-of-war wait in camps. Thousands, some after years of internment, are wounded or sick. They have become hostages of international law," he said in a statement to mark the signing of the first Geneva Convention 125 years ago. (Reuters)

Earthquake tremor: A fairly strong earthquake tremor measuring 4.5 on the Richter Scale rippled through the Atlantic Ocean yesterday around the French island of Ouessant off the Breton Coast, seismologists said.

The tremor shook houses on the mainland at Finistere but caused no damage, the scientists at the World Institute of Physics at Strasbourg said.

The scientists said they registered the tremor at 8:32 am and that its epicentre was located at 48.4 degrees north and 05.9 degrees west. (UPI)

Malta's demand: Malta has asked the United Nations to add the protection of the environment in extra-territorial regions such as the high seas to the agenda of this year's General Assembly session opening on September 19.

In a letter published yesterday, Maltese UN representative Alexander Borg Olivier said: "The effective and comprehensive environmental protection of 'Extra-territorial spaces', such as the high seas, is vital in order to safeguard the global environment."

He added: "The human urge to improve, coupled with increased population growth and the remarkable developments in technology may cause substantial, irreparable environmental harm to an increasing number of 'extra-territorial spaces.'" (Reuters)

Computer export foiled

PHOENIX, Aug. 22. (AP): The US Customs Service has arrested a West German and an Afghan in Arizona for allegedly conspiring to export a sophisticated military computer to the Soviet Union.

The arrests yesterday of German national Egbert Partheuis, 46, and Abdul Aziz Ahmad, 40, followed an eight-month investigation, said Thomas McDermott, special agent in charge of customs in Phoenix.

"The technology is such that it's being sought by the Soviet bloc and there are people attempting to obtain it in this country for them," McDermott said.

Partheuis was in the United States on a visitor's visa; Ahmad was a resident alien living in Alexandria, Virginia.

Customs spokesman Charles Conroy said agents believe that Partheuis, Ahmad and Afghan national Hady Azimi, who remained in West Germany, conspired to purchase and export a digital equipment Vax 8820 miniframe computer, which requires a validated export licence from the US Department of Commerce.

McDermott said the men initially paid \$28,000 to agents working undercover for an IBM computer with military applications and shipped it to West Germany.

"At that purchase they came forward with the deposit to purchase the Vax 882 and gave an initial deposit. Then last Thursday they came forward with the balance of the \$596,000," McDermott said.

Partheuis and Ahmad were held without bail, charged with violating a four-year-old federal arms export control law and with conspiracy and money laundering. If convicted of all charges, each could receive up to 35 years in prison and a \$2.5-million fine.

Plot against Desai admitted

SYDNEY, Aug. 22. (Reuters). A 33-year-old Australian pleaded guilty today to plotting 11 years ago to kill the then-Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai by planting a bomb outside the Sydney Hilton hotel.

Evan Federick, a member of the Indian religious sect Ananda Marga, bungled the assassination attempt and the bomb went off accidentally, killing two garbage collectors and

a policeman. Police told a previous Sydney court hearing that Federick, and another sect member, Timothy Anderson, failed twice to detonate the bomb near the entrance of the hotel when Desai was being welcomed by the then-Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.

Federick and Anderson, arrested after years of investigation, have been charged with murder of the three men and the attempted murder of the Indian leader.

Anderson will appear before the court on Friday.

Federick entered a not guilty plea to the murder charges saying that he would only plead guilty if the offence was reduced to manslaughter. Government prosecutor Mark Tedeschi said

the murder charges would stand and Federick must go to trial. The court remanded Federick in custody until a date is fixed for the full hearing.

Police, during a preliminary hearing two months ago, said Federick admitted trying to detonate the bomb by remote control as Desai arrived at the hotel on February 11, 1978.



Support for activists

Two masked pro-democracy activists (right) hold up a heart-shaped protest balloon outside the US consulate in Hong Kong. On the balloon are some

of the names of Chinese students who have been arrested in China since June 4. US consulate assistant public affairs officer Dan Shreebny later talked



with the masked activists (left). He received a petition asking the US to pressure China to stop the arrests and executions. (Reuters wirephoto)

Chinese call for purge in party

BEIJING, Aug. 22. (UPI). A senior Chinese leader called today for a sweeping purge within the Communist Party of officials who supported the pro-democracy movement, in a public acknowledgement of what is feared will be a major campaign to cleanse party ranks.

Internal party documents detailing some of the housecleaning plans have been circulating in Beijing for several weeks, and suggest newly ascendant hardline leaders want the purge to be the widest since a massive "rectification" drive in the early 1980s.

The call made today by Song Ping, a member of the party politburo's ruling standing committee who reportedly will lead the campaign, was among the most specific made by Chinese leaders since the bloody June crackdown on the democracy movement.

Thousands of party officials participated in or supported the student-led protests this spring for greater political freedom. The brutal crackdown prompted many to threaten to resign.

"Quite a number of the sponsors, organizers and commanders of the turmoil and riot were Communist Party members," said Song, the head of the party organization department, which supervises internal affairs of the party's 47 million members.

Song, who was promoted to the six-member standing committee in late June after the ouster of Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang, spoke at the national meeting of provincial and local party organization leaders, according to the official Xinhua news agency.

"The recent struggle has made us see clearly that many problems, some quite severe, do exist in the party organizations and the ranks of party members," Song said.

"It is necessary to make a thorough inspection of the ideology and actual behaviour in the struggle of leading officials at various levels so as to dismiss those who practice bourgeois liberalisation from leading posts," he said.

"Bourgeois liberalisation" is the leadership's code phrase for Western political concepts such as democracy.

Although Chinese leaders have previously signalled plans for a purge, party members have indicated the effort is meeting with substantial resistance in the rank-and-file, in part due to the large numbers of people who would be targeted.

The internal documents circulated to party members recently put Song in charge of the housecleaning plans, which also are said to include government departments, according to informed Chinese sources.

Investigation teams are to be sent into party and government offices, with officials from the department level and up expected to account for their actions at crucial periods, such as when the protests began and when martial law was declared in Beijing May 20.

On the report, although Kaohsiung police later confirmed that they found a rented car containing bullet-proof vests and a number of bullets abandoned in a culvert.

"All I can say is we don't know where he (Lee) is," one Wing Feng executive said.

State radio said police investigators believe Lee was kidnapped by members of a gang angered by his decision to suspend all cash withdrawals after the government passed a new banking law on July 11.

Rising anger among investors



Deng Xiaoping

Deng turns 85

BEIJING, Aug. 22. (Reuters). China's reclusive leader Deng Xiaoping passed his 85th birthday with no fanfare today, out of public view in a seaside resort, still faced with the protracted problem of his succession.

While Communist Party leaders — some possible contenders to succeed him — were shown in official newspapers attending a meeting in Beijing, Deng was believed by diplomats to be 250 km (155 miles) away in the coastal town of Beidaihe.

Top party and government figures have been shuttling to and from its luxury guarded villas and Beijing is rife with rumours about the latest stage in the power struggle since reformist party leader Zhao Ziyang was ousted in June.

Zhao was Deng's heir apparent but met the same fate at the hands of party hardliners as his reformist predecessor Hu Yaobang two years ago.

In the aftermath of the military crackdown on the democracy movement, China has built up a personality cult around Deng in an apparent attempt to regain lost prestige and carve out a historical niche for him alongside past leaders of communism.

But for most of China's 1.1 billion people coping with the usual problems of rising prices and overcrowded buses, today was just another day.

"Eighty-five today? I had no idea," said a woman selling flowers. "We Chinese don't know about these things."

Deng has been out of sight since appearing on television more than 10 weeks ago to chair a meeting of military commanders after the June 4 army assault on Tiananmen Square which cost hundreds, possibly thousands of civilian lives.

Officials denied reports this month that Deng was seriously ill.

The most up-to-date evidence of his existence for the Chinese public was a photograph published in all major official newspaper yesterday. It was said to have been taken on July 2.

Hong Kong takeover feared

'Insurance plan'

HONG KONG, Aug. 22. (UPI). A key US lawmaker today proposed an "insurance policy" that would allow Hong Kong people to acquire permanent residence in Western nations in advance of China's 1997 takeover of the British colony without actually having to emigrate.

Congressman Stephen Solarz, chairman of the US House of Representatives subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, emphasised such a plan would require the cooperation and support of Britain, whose lease on the colony expires in 1997.

"The United Kingdom does have a primary responsibility here in that regard," he said. "But I think it is a responsibility that is shared by other countries."

Britain has refused to grant the right of abode to Hong Kong's 3.5 million British overseas passport holders, which has created great anxiety in the colony, whose confidence in the future was rocked by China's brutal crackdown on pro-democracy advocates in early June.

Solarz estimated the United States, along with Britain, Australia and Canada, could accept "several hundred thousand emigrants" through the programme which he said could be extended through the end of the century. He did not specify what criteria would be used in selecting people to receive overseas residence.

"Such a policy could give people in Hong Kong the confidence to remain here, which is where I think most of them want to stay," the New York Democrat said.

Solarz said support in the US Congress for such a plan would largely depend on whether Britain adopted the programme.

"If the United Kingdom is unwilling to join in this insurance policy, I believe there will be diminished potential support for such an initiative in Congress," he said.

The state-controlled press made no mention of Deng's birthday.

Instead the party newspaper People's Daily republished on its front page a speech made by Deng in 1957 and a picture of Zhao's successor, Jiang Zemin, heading a meeting on strengthening party organisation.

Political analysts, Chinese and foreign, dissected the speech for clues which might unravel the mysteries of Beijing power politics.

Headed "The Communist Party must accept supervision," Deng ruled out Western forms of political pluralism for China, which he dubbed "big democracy," and told the party to follow "little democracy" by keeping close and listening to the masses.

Speaking in the wake of the 1956 Soviet-led invasion of Hungary, Deng criticised Budapest and Poland for pursuing "big democracy" — another signal that China's present leadership would not tolerate on its soil the political changes again sweeping those countries.

But Deng also stressed that the party had to overcome "subjectivism, bureaucracy and factionalism."

"Deng has decided repression was necessary but that it must be kept in check so as not to destroy 10 years of reforms. He wants to keep China's open-door policy," the diplomat said.

There are Chinese intellectuals who believe that although Deng was a major force in crushing the student-led democracy movement in June, without him the crackdown would be even worse.

Who will eventually replace Deng at the top of the party's powerful central military commission and fill the number two slot left vacant by Zhao's dismissal are issues which could dictate China's immediate future.

Border attack

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand, Aug. 22. (UPI). Cambodian resistance forces attacked Vietnamese-backed troops of the Phnom Penh government today, sparking a battle that sent shells into Thai territory, military sources said.

Troops of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) launched the attack this afternoon at a firebase manned by Vietnamese and government troops at Ampil along the Thai-Cambodian border.

The sources said the clash lasted about 40 minutes and Vietnamese forces hit back with mortar and artillery.

"Some shells struck into the Thai territory only one-half mile (1 km) from the refugee camp at site 2," one of the sources said.

The source said the shelling caused a panic among the more than 130,000 refugees at the camp.

Aseans views on bases sought

MANILA, Aug. 22. (Agencies). President Corason Aquino said today her Southeast Asian neighbours should express "clearly" if they agree with the continued stay of US military bases in the Philippines and accept Singapore's offer to host some of the facilities.

In an address before the 10th inter-parliamentary meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), Aquino said the gathering should "discuss sensitive issues of mutual interest such as regional defence."

Elaborating in a news conference later, Aquino said the United States has said in the past that the presence of its six bases in the Philippines, including the giant Clark Air Base and Subic Bay naval complex, contributes to regional security.

"Now, I think it will be good if the Asean members could also be expressing clearly whether they agree with such a position or not," Aquino said.

"It would be good to find out, first of all whether it is to the interest of the region to continue having the US facilities here or for that matter having the Singapore offer made a reality," she said.

The US-basing rights in the Philippines expire in 1991. Aquino has said she is keeping her options open on a renewal and told reporters she was awaiting a formal request from the United States to begin talks on a new agreement. Informal discussions on an extension are expected in December.

Singapore Aug 4 offered to host some of the US facilities to make it easier for the Philippines to keep the American bases. "Now, I believe Singapore should be asking the other Asean nations whether they believe this could, in effect, be one way of sharing in the burden (of having the US bases in the region), Aquino said.

Aside from Singapore and Philippines, Asean also is made up of Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei.

A Thai government spokesman said Aug 15 Thailand has no intention of giving the United States facilities in the country and that the bases are "fine where they are now in the Philippines."

Officials in Malaysia and Indonesia have expressed concern Singapore's offer could upset the balance of power among the United States, the Soviet Union and China and set back Asean's long-term goal of setting up a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in the region.

Nineteen people died in fierce fighting after Philippine troops chasing a communist rebel fell into a guerrilla ambush, the military said today.

Twelve other soldiers were wounded and one was reported missing in the gunbattle on Sunday in Tago municipality, Surigao del Sur province, 840 km (520 miles) southeast of Manila.

Kim interrogated

Questioned over Suh's secret trip



Kim Dae-Jung

SEOUL, Aug. 22. (AP). The leader of the nation's largest opposition party turned himself in to prosecutors today for interrogation on charges stemming from a lawmaker's secret trip to North Korea.

For the second time in three weeks, investigators called in Kim Dae-Jung, head of the leading Party for Peace and Democracy, for questioning on allegations connected with the trip by National Assemblyman Suh Kyung-Won, a former member of Kim's party.

Kim arrived at the Seoul prosecutor's office by car escorted by 12 national legislators from his party at 10 am local time (0100 GMT). After a brief nod to dozens of photographers, he went inside with aides.

Prosecutors said questioning would centre on allegations that Kim knew of the illegal trip to North Korea by lawmaker Suh Kyung-Won well before the case was made public and that he received \$10,000 from Suh, which Suh had allegedly received from North Korean agents.

Kim has denied both charges and said he would be proven innocent.

Suh has been charged with espionage, violating a ban on unauthorised travel to North Korea and receiving \$120,000 from North Korean agents.

Prosecutors quoted Suh as confessing he had received \$30,000 after meeting North Korean President Kim Il Sung in Pyongyang in August 1988 and that he had given \$10,000 to Kim Dae-Jung after returning to Seoul.

Prosecutors also quoted Suh as confessing that he personally reported to Kim about his secret trip in mid-April, two months earlier than the PPD head said party officials informed him of the trip.

South Korea and the Association of South Asian Nations agreed to a joint inter-governmental consultative committee to step up economic co-operation, the Foreign Ministry announced today.

Tokyo to discuss Mideast in Vienna

22 envoys to take part

TOKYO, Aug. 22. (Agencies). Japan's policy in the Middle East will be discussed in Vienna today by senior diplomats from 22 Japanese embassies, the Japanese Foreign Ministry announced today.

The senior diplomats from 21 Japanese embassies in the Middle East and the Japanese embassy in Washington will focus on peace process in the region and the explosive situation in Lebanon, officials here said.

Representatives of Foreign, Finance and Trade ministries will join the diplomatic envoys at their two-day meetings in the Austrian capital, they added.

Japan's programme for the Middle East includes inviting Palestine President Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens to visit Tokyo.

The diplomats meeting's con-

sidered the first since 1987 and comes following a meeting for Japanese ambassadors in the Middle East in Egypt last July. They will meet on Friday with trade representatives to exchange views on political and economic matters in the Middle East and to study means of boosting Japan's relation with the region's states.

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will visit Mexico and Canada after his first summit with US President Bush in Washington Sept 1, the Foreign Ministry announced today.

Kaifu, 58, who took office Aug 9, is scheduled to leave Tokyo Aug 30.

His spokesman Tokuo Yamashita said the prime minister will proceed to Mexico city from Boston for talks with Mexican President Carlos Salinas Sept 5.



Doi assures

Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party, addresses a meeting of party leaders on Monday as he stood outside his company offices in the southern city of Kaohsiung yesterday, the radio quoted witnesses as saying.

Both police and Wing Feng executives declined to comment

Peace plan an acid test for the Cambodian factions: diplomat

PARIS, Aug. 22. (Reuters). A Franco-Indonesian peace plan for Cambodia is a challenge to the country's four warring factions to settle their differences before an international conference here ends next week, diplomats said today.

"This plan is going to be the acid test for the Cambodian factions. If they don't sit down and negotiate on it, it means they are not yet ready for peace and there is no chance of a comprehensive settlement at the conference," one Western diplomat said.

Under the plan, proposed yesterday by France and Indonesia, co-chairmen of the 19-nation conference, Prince Norodom Sihanouk would become head of a Cambodian "council of state," diplomats said.

The council, made up of representatives from the three guerrilla factions and the present Phnom Penh government, would be charged with organising free elections after the final pullout of Vietnamese troops in September.

Hun Sen, Cambodia's Vietnamese-backed prime

minister, would still be in charge of day-to-day running of the country, but would hand over some ministerial portfolios to the other factions.

France and Indonesia declined to comment on the content of the plan, which diplomats said had been put forward in a low-key way to break deadlock at the talks and help end two decades of war and turmoil in the small southeast Asian state.

Nor was there any immediate reaction from Hun Sen or the three guerrilla factions.

"We have to study the plans first," said a delegate

of the Khmer Rouge, Sihanouk's most powerful guerrilla partners.

The Paris conference has been stymied since the end of July by Phnom Penh's insistence on running the country until elections are held and Khmer Rouge demands for a role in a quadripartite administration.

A settlement along the lines of the Franco-Indonesian plan would go some way towards satisfying the demands of both sides.

Number of Arab science publications very low

Education system weak: ALESCO study

A RECENT research study conducted by the Arab League Education, Science and Cultural Organisation (ALESCO) said that the number of scientific publications in the Arab world is very low. It said that there are 14.5 scientific publications for every one million Arabs, while this rate is 1,030 in USA, 446 in France and 16 in Brazil and India. The study said that published scientific research in the Arab world does not exceed 7,500 researches every year. Egypt comes first with 3,083 research studies, followed by Saudi

Arabia with 510, Tunisia 363, Algeria 313, Sudan 259, Jordan 213 and Kuwait 198. The study added that 37.7 per cent of the published scientific research studies were in medical sciences, followed with 20 per cent in agricultural sciences, 17 per cent in basic sciences and the rest in other scientific fields.

Foreign languages

The study added that majority of Arab researchers publish their scientific studies in foreign languages and mostly in English. It said that 95 per

cent of scientific studies in Kuwait, Egypt and Morocco were published in foreign languages.

The ALESCO study was prepared within the framework of working out an Arab strategy for the development of science and technology in the Arab world. It added that 99 per cent of medical, basic science and engineering research studies were published in foreign languages while only 50 per cent of the economic researches were published in those languages. The study warned of the dan-

gerous consequences of this trend. It said that although Arab researchers are motivated to publish their research studies in foreign languages in order to get academic promotions, the availability of scientific and technology publications in foreign languages and their attempt to gain international reputation, but this trend also contains unhealthy indications.

Weakness

It said that this reflects the weak relations between the Arab research institutes with their

societies and its developmental, social and cultural needs.

The study attributed this weakness in scientific production to the lack of advanced educational systems in Arab countries and the prevalence of old educational methods. The study said that in modern days, higher education has become the basis for scientific innovation and creativity and not in providing graduation degrees only as it is the common principle in the Arab world.

It added that a recent study conducted on six universities and

two higher institutes in various Arab countries, showed that the rate of publishing scientific studies in specialised magazines by the teaching staff is less than one study per year for each member of the teaching staff. It added that scientific production slows further after the teaching staff spends more than 10 years in service, a clear reflection of the important role academic promotion plays in this issue. It added that it was shown that the tendency of the teaching staff for writing and translation is very limited.

GCC states' joint efforts boost ports co-operation

KUWAIT, Aug 22. (KUNA): Director-general of Ports Public Authority Ibrahim Makki today hailed co-operation existing between Arab Gulf ports which he said was further boosted following the establishment of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Interviewed by KUNA, Makki said regulations and work procedures were presently unified in all member states, thanks to the establishment of the GCC.

He said the difference in regulations and instructions before the existence of the GCC had adversely affected performance at the ports.

Efforts

Makki said ports authorities, in collaboration with Gulf Chambers of Commerce, had managed to lessen the risks of cheating by giving advice to importers urging them to deal with national shipping lines.

He said the fruitful co-operation between GCC member states in the fields of ports had resulted in joint efforts aimed at co-ordinating training sessions and exchanging expertise and information.

In this connection he said the kingdom of Saudi Arabia had established a training institute for the benefit of all GCC member states. He said similar institutes were later set up in Jeddah and Kuwait.

Tariffs

Makki said Kuwait's institute organised intensive training courses in various fields of ports services attended by participants from other member states.

He said the Gulf countries had unified tariffs and ports fees following a study prepared by Kuwait's Ports Public Authority at the request of GCC general secretariat.

MPW expands computer base to enhance follow-up services

Links with other authorities



Employees at the Ministry of Public Works using personal computers to keep in touch with other departments.

DIRECTOR of the Planning, Development, and Follow up Department at the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) Walied Al Thaqib said that the ministry has begun expanding its computer applications due to increased work-load, streamlining its services and speeding-up the process of completing transactions by other government authorities.

Interviewed by Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Thaqib added that the computer centre in addition to being a data bank has also become a data processing and analysing centre through the utilisation of computers that have specific systems and with the assistance of a highly qualified team of computer experts. He pointed out that computer systems utilised aim at upgrading work levels which require speed, accuracy and provide a data bank of information with easy access.

Policy

The MPW follows a flexible policy in relation to its applications at its different departments. It links the data base system which comprehensively depends on main frame computer systems and also utilises the distributed data system which depend on personal computers connected via terminals among departments.

Thaqib indicated that the ministry's information centre includes main frame computer systems which operate via side communication units connected to other government authorities. Such networks are compatible and integrate with nationally made systems which existed previously. National systems to follow up construction projects, was previously developed at the National Centre for Computers

and Microfilms and connected to the Ministry of Planning in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Works. The system is in the process of being developed and will be implemented at all government ministries on finalisation, the official said.

He pointed out that the system aims at providing an automatic method to manage government construction projects for all main working stages which include design, implementation, supervision and follow-up.

He stated that the second section of the system includes a national financial computer system in which the ministry will prepare financial data especially for the annual budget which will then be sent to the Ministry of

Finance to obtain regular reports.

Thaqib said that the national system also utilises a bank guarantee sub-system which stores data on bank notes and memos for technical departments of the ministry.

He added that the subsystem was developed to censor the validity dates of bank guarantees. In addition to small frame computer system the ministry owns medium frames usually prepared to serve specialised systems.

The ministry has already implemented the engineering drawing and design system which is now being effectively utilised for designing and analysing engineering drawings.

One of the personal computer systems currently in use at the ministry is the work orders, alterations and final orders system containing reports on prices, quantities and contract lists in addition to a system designed to retrieve stored engineering drawings and plans Thaqib said.

He added that the MPW has no intention of using large frame computer systems with the aim of adhering to the policy of rationalisation in the budget.

He pointed out that such systems are very costly and require the back-up services of a large technical staff for operation in addition to the fact that these computers are highly sophisticated from an operational viewpoint.

Australians suspend live sheep trade with Saudis

CANBERRA, Aug 22. (Renter): Australia today suspended live sheep exports to Saudi Arabia, over what the statutory body called unwarranted rejection of 300,000 sheep, the Saudis claimed were diseased.

"Australia's high reputation for quality and freedom from disease cannot be put at risk by further unjustified actions by Saudi Arabian veterinary officials," Primary Industries and Energy Minister John Kerin said in a statement.

Saudi Arabia takes half of Australia's live sheep exports, a trade worth up to \$105 million (\$78 million US) that farmers regard as a vital diversification from sales of frozen meat.

Kerin announced suspension of the annual trade in 3.5 million live sheep, sent to Saudi Arabia for Muslim slaughter, after failure of official talks at the weekend in Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia says the viral diseases Bluetongue and Sheep Pox were found among the rejected sheep. The sheep were later bought by other Gulf states, such as Kuwait and United Arab Emirates.

Inspection

Australian government veterinary officials say the country does not have sheep infected with the two diseases. The government is seeking independent inspection of sheep shipped to Saudi Arabia.

Australia will maintain attempts to resolve the dispute, Kerin said.

Australia's Meat and Livestock Corporation, which monitors the trade, will meanwhile try to expand other markets, mainly in the Gulf area, a spokesman said.

Michael Prendergast, Chairman of the Sheepmeat Council of Australia, said it would be difficult to find new markets.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Labourers still live and work miserably

FOR a long time now expatriate labourers have been faced with both miserable working and living conditions. The situation is further exacerbated each year for this lot during the long hot summer months when temperatures usually lower around 40 degrees Celsius during the peak hot weather.

In recent months there have been frequent but little complaints from expatriate labourers about the lack of adequate facilities and reasonable work schedule of work premises and shifts. Even during summer these workers are made to toil in the extreme heat and humidity outdoors of 'normal' working hours. Normal working hours in the construction sector means anytime from 7 am to 6 pm, often extending longer in the form of 'overtime'. In most cases overtime work is mandatory as contractors struggle to meet project deadlines. This causes workers to slog throughout the day in the intense heat with hardly any break.

No respite

There seems to be no respite from this sort of inhuman working conditions for these labourers, the bulk of whom hail from the Indian sub-continent. Not surprisingly there have been numerous cases of workers suffering from heartstroke and acute dehydration this summer. Employers on the other hand appear to be least concerned about the plight of their workers and are only concerned about the completion of projects.

The authorities have repeatedly appealed to employers and contractors to allocate reasonable working hours to the labourers, suggesting early schedules for workers from dawn to just before peak afternoon period. In spite of this official call, some employers continue to operate in the former manner on some preheat or another, frequently, complaining about valuable time and money lost due to projects being behind schedule.

Labourers also suffer the hardship of travelling to their work sites in the back of open trucks. This mode of travelling to work subject the workers, often dozens cramped together for exceeding the capacity of the truck, to the mercy of the scorching sun and puts their lives at risk in case of accidents. In recent times there have been a number of road accidents involving labourers sitting at the back of open trucks.

This has spurred the authorities to ban this mode of travelling for workers and warned employers against continuing this measure. But once again it appears that this has fallen on deaf ears. One can still see the odd truckload of weary looking labourers being transported to and from work sites to the horror and disgust of concerned onlookers.



Love spud

This heart shaped potato was found recently at the fruit and vegetables market in Shuwaikh by a Kuwaiti resident of Sabahia.

Bedouin heritage to go on display in Cairo, Paris

DEPUTY director of Kuwait National Museum, Dr Fahad Al Whaibi said that the museum was first established in 1957 under the supervision of the Ministry of Education.

The old building of the museum was located in Sharq at Sheikh Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah Palace. At that time, it included popular monuments representing Kuwait's environment and in 1958, other monumental discoveries were added to it.

Whaibi said that the museum was then transferred to Al Bader House located at the Gulf Road in 1965 under the man-

agement of the Ministry of Information. He added that the current museum building was opened to the public on Feb 23, 1983 and included the old monuments section, Marine Creatures Section, Popular Life Section, Bedouin Life Section, Informative Arts Section and the Planetarium, in addition to the Islamic Monuments House containing valuable historical and art monuments presented by Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al Ahmad and his wife Shiekha Hissa. Whaibi added that the museum is still incomplete.

Whaibi said that the role of the Kuwait National Museum is mainly to preserve

Kuwait's heritage in addition to some foreign artifacts and works of art and culture. He added that the museum has organised an old stamps exhibition, the Annual Week for Popular Handicrafts, lectures, symposiums and programmes at the planetarium.

Cultural season

Regarding the museum's activities during the upcoming cultural season, Whaibi pointed out that two exhibitions will be organised to display Kuwaiti Bedouin Heritage. The first will be held at the Egyptian Opera House on the occasion of HH the Amir's visit to Egypt at the end of this

month and the second will be held in Paris at the Arabian World Institution. Whaibi added that the two exhibitions are aimed at highlighting the emerging Kuwaiti civilisation for the Arab people and the European society.

Whaibi said that in addition to these activities the museum will organise several excavation works in co-operation with the French delegation in Failaka to uncover ancient artifacts. He indicated that a number of Kuwaiti youths will participate in the excavation camp along with the French delegation.

Educators against new 'group teacher' system

THE Ministry of Education intends to generalise the "Group Teacher System" experiment at schools during the coming academic year. The new system which is aimed at covering the shortage in teachers will require one teacher to teach more than one subject.

A local daily interviewed a number of educators and officials to highlight their opinions towards the new group teacher project.

Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Development, at the Ministry of Education, Dr Rasheed Al Hamad said that the group teacher system was previously implemented at schools attached to the Ministry of Education but the system was not obligatory. He pointed out that the implementation of the new system played an important part in resolving the problem of teacher shortages.

Disadvantage

On the other hand, teachers objected to the implementation of the group teacher system due to that fact that it will have an equally negative impact on students and teachers at the same time. They indicated that the new system requires double efforts from teachers, in addition to that fact that the future of students is threatened by teachers who may not be able to reach students' minds by teaching two subjects.

Assistant Undersecretary, Hamad added that the group teacher system was approved after co-ordination with the Ministry of Education, the Education College at Kuwait University, and the Fundamental Education College at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

Co-ordination and measures taken at the three authorities were made in order to graduate students capable of studying in the new system. He said that graduates of the primary stage must be specialised in Arabic and Islamic education or mathematics and science.

He added that the ministry stressed that the new system should be implemented at primary stage schools during this year after noticing that not all schools are following the system.

Hamad indicated that studies conducted at the Ministry of Education saw that students may be disadvantaged when receiving education from more than one teacher. He stressed that the group teacher system will improve student-teacher relations.

He added that the ministry will organise training programmes for teachers who will teach students in the new system.

Meanwhile, Abdul Raheem Yaqoob an Islamic education teacher at Zakariya Al Ansari school believes that the issue of group teachers was made obligatory by the ministry mainly to achieve rationalisation objectives.

Difficulties

He added that the group teachers system will have negative effects on students and teachers equally particularly after implementing the new curriculum of Arabic which requires double efforts from teachers and students.

He pointed out that students will face further difficulties in grasping the subjects due to the comprehensive and intensive texts of these materials. He anticipated that future primary students' graduates will be poor in scientific subjects.

He indicated that the new system will form a threat to students future. He said that rationalisation should not be at all affect students education.

Saleh Ibrahim, a mathematics teacher at Ibn Al Jawzi primary school for boys said that he does not support the group teacher system. He added that many teachers want to transfer to administrative works at the ministry in order to avoid the new system. He said that teachers joining the new system should be well prepared otherwise the system will prove to be a failure. He pointed out that teachers in the new system should be given allowances for the extra efforts.

Mokhtar Mahmoud, a teacher said that the implementation of the group teacher system at schools is premature due to the fact that it will create double pressure on teachers. He called upon officials at the Ministry of Education to cancel their decision.

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Kuwaiti passports

INTERIOR Minister Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem has said that relevant authorities of the ministry are studying a new form of Kuwaiti passport. He added that the current passport will be changed when these authorities complete their studies. He added that the ministry will shift to temporary headquarters at 6th Ring Road. This project will be offered for tender after 6 months.

The permanent headquarters will be in Kuwait City but it will be carried out after four or five years, he said.

The Interior Minister pointed out that GCC states have strong co-ordination and co-operation in the security field. He added that security co-operation was established among the GCC states even before the establishment of GCC.

He also pointed out that Kuwaiti women are encouraged to work in different fields and departments.

Fungal disease widespread in summer

DOCTOR Mohammed Abdulla Al Mishari a skin disease specialist said that six per cent of patients at skin diseases clinics in Kuwait suffer from mycosis.

Interviewed by the Red Crescent magazine, he added that twenty nine per cent of mycosis patients are Kuwaitis and seventy one per cent are non-Kuwaitis. He indicated that this type

of disease is common around the world particularly in tropical countries.

Weather

He stated that the mycosis disease is considered one of the chronic diseases which occur in the upper layer of skin. Mishari pointed out that high whether temperatures, body sweat, a lack of cleanliness and chronic

swellings are factors that helps the spread of the disease.

A study conducted by one of the researchers indicated that mycosis may appear at any age, but it is more likely to appear among the young. He said that statistics conducted on the disease showed higher rates of mycosis among males than females.

Modern training strategy for Kuwait Army

Conscription successful: Jaber

KUWAIT, Aug 22, (KUNA): A study is currently under way concerning reduction of the number of the annual refreshment courses to be taken by those who completed conscription, a high ranking Army official announced.

Speaking exclusively to KUNA, Deputy Chief of Staff Major-General Jaber Khaled Al Sabah today said the Army has started implementation of a new military training strategy that copes with modern military concepts.

He added that the government through conscription is aiming to mobilise the national spirit of Kuwaitis which was clearly embodied through their building of Kuwait's wall and taking part in battles to defend their country.

The major-general described the conscription law, which was introduced 10

years ago, as successful despite some negative aspects which are very common even in countries which are far ahead in this field.

Conscripts holding university degrees don't necessarily have to serve in positions that conform with the area of their studies and specialties because of the differences between civilian and military fields, Sabah said.

But to benefit from such conscripts, he indicated, they are enrolled in intensive courses with emphasis on how to deal with various weapons.

Hestressed the importance of amending and promoting laws and regulations to cope with the country's strategy and demographic policies, pointing to a current study in this regard.

Sabah denied allegations of abuse of

conscripts and added that the general staff forbids such a thing.

He expressed astonishment that some conscripts complain of psychological pressure that they encounter during their training, he queried: "How can they be trained to become distinguished military men in a short period of time without being exposed to serious training operations?"

About the general staff's role in preparing military leaders, the major-general expressed the Ministry of Defence's deep interest in adequately preparing its officers in a manner that complies with modern military concepts, saying they are subjected to intensive training courses and programmes of a duration not less than 10 years.

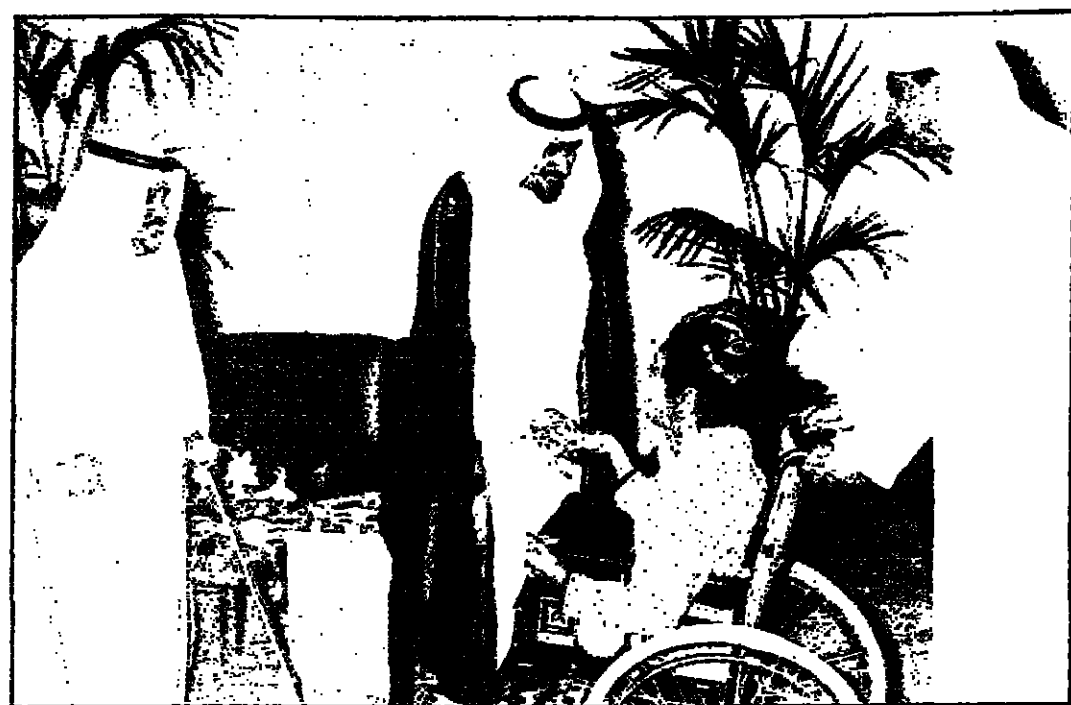
On the other hand, Sabah affirmed that there are no new arms deals that Kuwait

intends to pursue those besides previously announced pointing out that the "Fahd" armoured vehicles, which Kuwait ordered from Egypt, will arrive soon.

The Peninsula Shield Force, group Army units of the Gulf Co-operation Council's states and a lot was achieved from such a force, he said.

The force had enabled member countries to get acquainted with modern combat methods and exchange military expertise made possible by the joint war games and manoeuvres, he added.

About the Iraq-Iran war and its impact on the region, the high ranking officer said such a war had adversely affected the countries of the region, adding that the international weapons market and military industry were the only beneficiaries.



Amir receives handicapped

HH the Amir received in audience yesterday the board chairman and members of Kuwait Handicapped Club, and Kuwait handicapped national team players on the occasion of their winning 46 medals, including gold, silver, and bronze, in the Stock Mandel and Nottingham International Championships, held recently in the United Kingdom.

The meeting was attended by Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed, and Assistant Undersecretary for Youth Affairs at the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry Abdul Rahman Yousel Al Mazroui.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audience

KUWAIT, Aug 22, (KUNA): HH the Amir Tuesday received in audience Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber.

Cairo visit

CAIRO, Aug 22, (KUNA): Kuwaiti diplomatic sources and Egyptian economic figures today expressed interest in the visit of HH the Amir of Kuwait to Egypt on August 28 as the first such visit in 11 years.

In statements to the Middle East News Agency, Kuwaiti diplomatic sources said that a greater inflow of Kuwaiti investments is expected soon in to Cairo in the light of the summit meeting between HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed and President Hosni Mubarak.

For their part, the Egyptian economic figures said that the Amir's Cairo visit will result in the signing of several bilateral agreements to bolster relations in various spheres especially the economic and investment fields.

The expected summit talks to focus on launching a joint initiative on the international debt problem based on the Amir's proposals to write off debts of the poorer nations and Mubarak's last July proposal of holding a summit meeting for the creditor and debtor countries.

Interior meeting

CAIRO, Aug 22, (KUNA): Director of Verdicts' Execution and Prisons Department at the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry Colonel Fahd Al Yassin yesterday met here with Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr.

The Egyptian Middle East News Agency reported that discussions during the meeting dealt with the possibility of Kuwait benefiting from Egyptian expertise in verdicts' execution and prisons.

Yugoslav envoy

KUWAIT, Aug 22, (KUNA): Electricity and Water Minister Dr Hmoud Rqobah today received the Yugoslav Ambassador to Kuwait and discussed with him bilateral co-operation and Yugoslavia.

Bank loans

KUWAIT, Aug 22, (KUNA): Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait Sheikh Salem Abdel Aziz Al Sabah today said it has urged local banks to broaden facilities of rendering loans to citizens to construct private houses.

Sheikh Salem said the directive to the local banks was in line with the role of these banks in boosting economic and social development.

He noted that the instructions also reflect the objectives of the state's policy which strongly advocates providing citizens and their families with private accommodation.

School cooling

THE Minister of Electricity and Water Dr Hmoud Al Rqobah has said that work to provide schools with air-conditioning systems is progressing according to plan.

He told a local daily that the ministry had already purchased the needed air-conditioning units from a local manufacturer, in a bid to encourage local A/C equipment industries.

The ministry has arranged to provide the needed power supply for the installation. There will be no power shortage as a result of operating this equipment, Rqobah said.

Zayed messages

ABU DHABI, Aug 22, (KUNA): President of United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan has sent messages to Turkish President Keman Evren and the Bulgarian President Zhivkov. Today concerning UAE's relations with both countries.

Shoulder responsibility call

Private sector must provide jobs for Kuwaitis: official

PROBLEMS encountered by Kuwaiti youths in securing job placements in the government sector and the almost bleak prospects in the private sector are a cause for serious concern and need to be addressed on a priority basis, a Kuwaiti official said.

In a seminar entitled "Unemployment in Kuwait" organised by a local daily, Ali Al Kandiri, Secretary of Kuwait Labourers Union said every effort should be made to provide work opportunities for Kuwaiti youths.

He added that the private sector which is being supported by the state has yet to provide support to the state in solving the problems of unemployed youth. The official added: "Not even the highest commitment of the government can overcome it, without the convinced and total participation of all the institutional resources in the country."

He went on to state that the state does not recoup any taxes from the private sector for the support given to the sector and added that the labour law states that at least 25 per cent of the total manpower in private establishments should be indigenous.

He commented that the Kuwaiti manpower at the government sector is only 40 per cent of total manpower. Further, the official said that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour does not enforce its regulations to refuse employing non-Kuwaiti workers in a private company if the same job can be done by a Kuwaiti employee. Translated, he said that there is a shortage of national manpower both in the public and private sector.

He queried as to why various ministries import manpower from abroad when it would be more economical and practical to employ non-Kuwaitis living in Kuwait who continually search for employment?

Kandiri pointed out that

Kuwait's oil sector is adversely affected due to the recruitment of a large number of overseas workers. Experience has proved that these workers lack professional skills and this contributed in no small measure to the numerous accidents and damages occurring at oil installations.

Elaborating, the official said that there are Kuwaiti youths who can do these jobs and are qualified to undertake these responsibilities. He added that the Civil Service Commission should reconsider the allowances allocated to Kuwaiti manpower to encourage them to work in technical posts.

He recommended that private companies should be supported by the state in those cases where the private firms undertake to employ Kuwaiti nationals. Such support from the state could be provided in the form of part-payment of wages to those Kuwaitis employed by the private sector. The Chamber of Commerce which represents the private sector in Kuwait could play an active role in this respect.

Kandiri said that there are large private companies in Kuwait which do not employ any Kuwaitis. A case in point, he said, is the Kuwaiti insurance sector which does not employ any Kuwaiti national. Co-operation should also be extended to national banks to encourage them to employ more Kuwaitis.

The official called for establishing an office to register unemployed Kuwaiti youths which would be instrumental in finding suitable job placements according to individual qualifications, experience and aptitudes.

Hussein Al Shimmari, director of the training department of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) also speaking at the seminar said that he does not believe the graduates of universities and Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) face any problems in finding jobs. The CSC registers

their names through a special office and communicates with various ministries by providing a comprehensive bio-data of the prospective candidate. Nominations are made according to qualifications and majors, including the candidates' personal preference for a particular type of job function, the official said.

He added that the private sector should co-operate with the government sector in providing employment to these youths. Government departments have more than adequately shouldered their responsibility in this respect and provided jobs for students during the summer season in co-operation with some ministries. He commented that some candidates desire to be appointed in certain positions or certain departments. However, it is not always possible, or for that matter pragmatic to accede to these demands and in these circumstances, candidates opt to remain jobless, rather than take up the jobs offered as a temporary measure, till such time as a suitable opening commensurate with their desires presents itself, the official said.

Qualifications The assistant rector of Kuwait University for Research Dr Abdul Rasoul Al Musa said that graduates of the university are usually appointed according to their majors and degrees. But graduates should also be qualified and trained to be able to work in different jobs. He added that some Kuwaiti graduates have been searching for jobs for more than five months because they do not find jobs that are suitable to their majors in the government sector. Kuwaiti graduates should not be appointed according to their majors only. They can be employed in jobs that are close or similar to their majors after getting the required training he said. These graduates are qualified to work in several jobs. The private sector

like the Touristic Enterprises Company can also take many of these graduates. We should also employ these graduates as teachers instead of recruiting new teachers from abroad. This is especially poignant if viewed from the aspect that we are seeking to bring about a balance in the existing ratio of Kuwaitis to non-Kuwaitis, the official said.

Responsibilities

Sheikh Sabah Mohammed Al Sabah, Director of Technical and Administrative Studies Institute pointed out that private companies try to avoid employment of Kuwaiti manpower because of high wages demanded by Kuwaitis. These companies are only profit oriented and are not very forthcoming in shouldering their responsibilities to the state and country, he added. He went on to state that the expatriate manpower is increasing and will continue to increase if Kuwaitis are not incorporated into the private sector in ever increasing numbers. However, he said that co-operation should be provided to the private sector to facilitate their employing national manpower. The official further added that "trading in work visas should be viewed as a black-spot on the good name of Kuwait and should be eradicated as it further contributes to the imbalance in population."

The director of admissions at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Ahmad Al Husaini called for legislation obliging the private sector to employ a part of the national manpower and to cover a part of the costs of training programmes given to Kuwaiti youths. He added that graduates of the authority do not suffer from difficulties of finding jobs after graduation specially the graduates of training courses. But he added that some graduates of faculties of the authority refuse to work in their majors as allowances given for them are poor.

45th National Day

Romania-Kuwait relations praised

By Lima Al Khalafawi Arab Times Staff

ROMANIAN and Kuwaiti relations are based on mutual respect, national sovereignty and non-interference in domestic affairs.

These relations strengthened during the summit meetings between Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu's visits to Kuwait in 1967 and '82 and HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah's visit to Romania in 1981, according to Gheorghe Serbanescu the Romanian ambassador extraordinary plenipotentiary to Kuwait.

In a press conference held yesterday at the embassy of the Socialist Republic of Romania to mark the celebrations of Romania's 45th National Day which falls today August 23, the ambassador praised the relations between Romania and Kuwait and said that the volume of trade between the two countries increased in the last three years to the amount of \$25 million. He added that a renewal of the trade agreement between the two countries will take place next month during the visit of the Kuwaiti minister of trade and commerce to Romania.

Serbanescu said that since independence in August 1944, socioeconomic development, building of the socialist society



Serbanescu ... challenges

has contributed to Romania becoming an industrial and agricultural country. This assessment rests on the following illustrative data: Today industrial production is 135 times larger than in 1945. A growth of 120 has been achieved after 1965-the year when President N. Ceausescu was elected to lead the destinies of the Romanian people.

Romanian agriculture yields today over 100 times more than it did in 1965. The national income jumped over 40 times, and consequently the working people's remuneration has increased about 15 times. He further added that Romania has expanded economic, scientific and technological co-operation with all socialist countries and diver-

sified trade and co-operation with the developing countries, with all the states in the world, irrespective of their size, strength, development level or geographical location.

Romania entertained economic and co-operation relations with 149 states in 1988. Romania's trade relations with any state are based on strict observance of the principles of national independence and sovereignty, full equal rights, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual co-operation arrangement.

Serbanescu added that in spite of all hardships caused by restrictive and discriminating practices in international economic relations, Romania managed to have active trade balances during the period 1981-85. In the first quarter of this decade, owing to the development of its national economy, steady improvement of its material production and exports patterns, Romania was capable of paying off its foreign debts of \$11 billion in late March 1989.

The ambassador said that the 1989 plan is focused on strengthening the role of industry, with special stress on the development of energy and enhanced use of indigenous raw materials. Industrial development is expected to rise at a rate of 9 to 10 per cent, the ambassador said.

Municipality revokes 34 licences at fruit market

THE Municipal Affairs Committee has decided to revoke the practice licences offered to leasers of 34 stalls at the central vegetables and fruits market in Shuwaikh for failure to comply with the enforced licensing regulations.

The decision was taken in response to two telegrams despatched to HH the Amir from five importers operating the market, during a meeting held under the chairmanship of the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammad Abdul Mohsen Al Rifai.

Other decisions issued by the committee during the meeting involved rejection of the memorandum submitted by the founding committee of Union of Fruits and Vegetable Importers, abrogation of its earlier decision to allow the sale of onion, potatoes and garlic, abrogation of its decision on unloading in the special space allotted for each merchant at the market, banning inter-stall or inter-barrack transfer, abrogation of its decision binding stall-keepers to operate their own businesses or their proxies who must be Kuwaitis, and abrogation of its decision c-the need to declare daily bank deposits or monthly foreign remittances.

On the other hand the committee decided to retain earlier decisions to activate marketing activities without adjustment of forementioned items, as these decisions, stipulations and constraints were aimed at regulating business operation at the market and widen the base for Kuwaiti merchants to enhance their import activities.

The committee also decided to refer the issue on the daily bank deposits and foreign remittances to the Legal Department at the municipality for consideration.

As for the application of standard Kuwaiti specifications and stipulations on the fresh vegetables and fruits packaging boxes, the committee decided that importers must comply with these regulations.

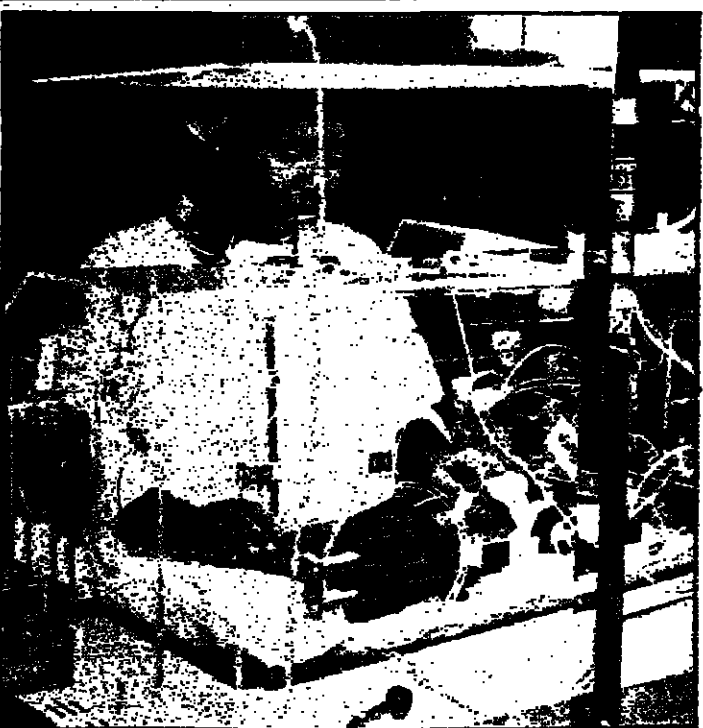
Planning meeting held

KUWAIT, Aug 22, (KUNA): Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today chaired a meeting for the ministerial committee for the plan at the Planning Ministry's conferences hall.

Planning Undersecretary and the committee's rapporteur Dr Abdul Hadi Al Awadi told

KUNA that the discussions tackled a number of issues on the agenda and appropriate decisions were adopted.

He added that the agenda included preliminary plan for the long-range development strategy, developing Abdullah Al Ahmad Street in Sharq area, Ardiya project and the new international airport building.



Premature babies being treated in intensive care at Maternity Hospital

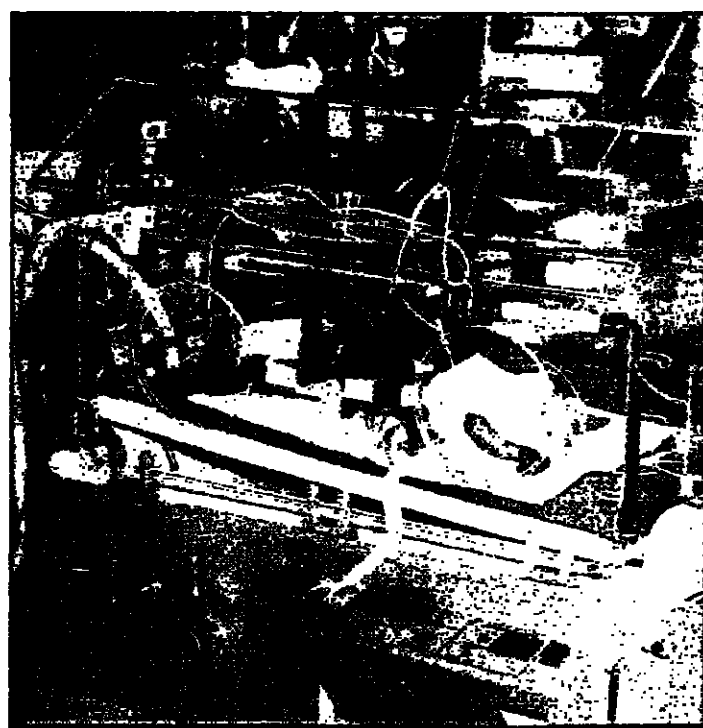
14pc new-borns need special care

A SPECIALISED paediatrician at the Maternity Hospital said that 14 per cent of babies born in Kuwait need special care.

Dr Abilah Al Ali said that the Premature Children Clinic at the Maternity Hospital received last year 2,370 babies out of 16,183 babies born in the hospital. She added that half of the children treated in the clinic were received because of early delivery while the remaining half suffered health troubles and deformities. She warned ladies of playing down the importance of visiting the doctors during their pregnancy. She added that the clinic admits premature babies or those who are born before in the 37th week and whose weight is less than 2.5 kilograms. She said that the clinic has recently introduced a new intensive care unit, well equipped with advanced medical instruments to help babies facing respiration difficulties, heart problems and other health troubles.

Ali said that 169 premature children or 5.6 per cent of all premature children admitted last year, died at the clinic. She said that the clinic examines all newly born children delivered at the Maternity Hospital to see if they face any health troubles.

The clinic also helps babies facing respiration troubles and aids them with artificial respiration till the problem is overcome.



The clinic has two wards at the hospital with 50 beds while the intensive care unit has 8 beds. She said that the clinic also studies deformed babies and refers them to the Hereditary Diseases Department at the hospital for detailed studies.

The department meets their parents and tries to ensure that the same trouble may not occur in future deliveries.

Ali said that the clinic carried out a research study on birth asphyxia for babies and found that its percentage in Kuwait is not higher than other countries. She said that the research found that ladies in their first pregnancy are more subjected to suffer this trouble and thus they need special care right from the very beginning particularly ladies suffering from hypertension.

About the reasons for early birth, she said that a research study was carried out by the clinic and found that it has relation with the health condition of the mother. Diseases like hypertension, heart troubles, kidney troubles and others are related with early deliveries. She added that the age of mothers, particularly below 17 and over 35 years, may also cause early birth. Mothers with malnutrition are also subjected to deliver before time. She added that many deliveries in a short period or repeated deliveries without rest, may also cause early birth.

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Solidarity wins fragile victory

Polish puzzle

SOLIDARITY scored a spectacular coup by gaining control of the government barely four months after its legalization, unseating a communist party entrenched for 45 years.

But the opposition movement that refused to perish under martial law may have its greatest challenge ahead.

It must try to solve the intractable Polish economic puzzle with inexperienced people in its ranks and a hostile Communist Party at its side. And to solve that economic puzzle, it must take steps that could alienate its bedrock of support — Polish workers.

"For the second time in its history, Solidarity is entering a course that may toss its ship on the rocks," activist Jerzy Jedlicki wrote in the opposition's *Gazeta Wyborcza* last week.

"It is very risky," said union spokesman Janusz Onyszkiewicz on the night that Solidarity editor Tadeusz Mazowiecki was nominated prime minister.

Without a doubt the Polish opposition has gone farther than ever before in loosening the hold on power of the Communist Polish United Workers party, but it will have to step very gingerly against enormous odds to keep the clock from turning back again.

In a bow to geopolitical realities, Solidarity leader Lech Walesa declared before Mazowiecki's nomination that the key ministries of Defense and Interior would remain in the hands of Communists. Presumably, the Soviet Union, Poland's superpower neighbour, would not have acquiesced to anything less.

That means that what opposition spokesmen call the "forces of coercion" — the army and the police — will remain entirely in the hands of the party.

Jedlicki, arguing against the opposition taking the government, said that in any situation when the party senses it is in "mortal danger," it will still have the means to mobilize a counterattack: another martial law.

Every decision that Mazowiecki takes as prime minister will have to be weighed against this threat.

For instance, how fast can he move to dismantle Communist control of the state-owned mass media? Will the Solidarity economic minister be able to order a cut in defense spending or look into secret police budgets? Does a decision to fire thousands of party worker risk a reaction?

Solidarity spokesman Janusz Onyszkiewicz, in a television interview Sunday on the US news show "This week with David Brinkley," said, "We are not completely without any influence on what is going to happen within the defense department or within the police" because the Solidarity-led opposition controls the prime minister's post and has a parliamentary majority.

Juggle

Mazowiecki will have to juggle the party fighting to maintain its status quo power on one hand and societal pressure to move quickly — especially in the realm of the economy.

The government will be "the focus of all expectations of the rallying society, and it will have to disappoint it, because there is no wonder drug to cure Poland's economy," Jedlicki wrote.

Mazowiecki got a foretaste Sunday of what he can expect. "We need bread, not a premier," hecklers chanted at his first public appearance after being nominated.

If Mazowiecki does quickly improve the economic situation in Poland, not even his affiliation with Walesa and Solidarity will protect him from public anger.

Solidarity, whose leadership has always been more moderate than some of the rank and file, itself will face sharp competition from the Communist-linked official union known as OPZZ, which will press economic demands at every opportunity in a bid to win a following.

Solidarity can anticipate being torn between workers, who demand that the union protect their jobs and living standards, and Mazowiecki's need as prime minister to moderate wage growth and close wasteful, unprofitable state enterprises.

Talispin

The Polish economy is in a talispin. Inflation is over 100 per cent and climbing, the government budget deficit this year approaches \$1 billion and the \$39 billion foreign debt is among the highest in the world. Agricultural and industrial production are falling, mainly the result of crumbling infrastructures and the emigration of much of the workforce.

Shops are empty, telephones and public transportation increasingly do not work and hours of productive time daily are wasted in obtaining the necessities of life — from medicine for a sick child to gasoline for the drive to work.

In this atmosphere of descending cataclysm, the Communist Party for years had been trying to persuade the opposition to share responsibility for Poland's fate.

Onyszkiewicz would have preferred to wait before entering government, but he admits Solidarity finally had no choice. With the Communist party so discredited, the country as suffering a leadership vacuum, he said.

But the union has few people with practical experience in government, he said.

In fact, the bureaucracy will continue to include tens of thousands of loyal party members.

In its favour, Solidarity has a proven ability to marshal public enthusiasm, as demonstrated in the whirlwind election campaign that saw it winning all but one of the 261 parliament seats it was allowed to contest.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1514 — Selim I, Sultan of Turkey, defeats Shah Ismail of Persia at Tchaldiran.
- 1628 — Duke of Buckingham, about to embark at Portsmouth, England, with further expedition to La Rochelle, France, is assassinated by John Felton.
- 1775 — England's King George II proclaims existence of open rebellion in American colonies.
- 1813 — French are defeated by German Army under Friedrich von Bulow, preventing march on Berlin.
- 1839 — Hong Kong is taken by British in war with China.
- 1909 — Abdul Aziz of Morocco is defeated at Marrakesh by Mulai Hafid, the new Sultan.
- 1927 — Nafas Pasha becomes leader of the Wafd in Egypt.
- 1937 — Japanese military forces land at Shanghai, China.
- 1944 — Allied troops in France capture port of Marseilles in World War II.
- 1952 — Arab League security pact goes into effect.
- 1958 — China begins bombardment of island of Quemoy.
- 1962 — US Telstar satellite relays first live television programme between United States and Europe.
- 1964 — Foot bridge collapses over river gorge in Venezuela, and 29 people fall to their deaths in rapids below.
- 1975 — Communists complete takeover of Laos.
- 1986 — Leaders of nine southern African nations, meeting in Angola, express support for international economic sanctions against South Africa.
- 1987 — Iraqi warplanes bomb key Iranian petrochemical complex of Bandar Khomeini.

The US lends a helping hand

A finger in every pie

THE Bush administration is only too well aware that the world is in flux as it has not been for decades and that its diplomatic moves can have a vast influence on the flow of history. Who, for instance, would have thought, even six months ago, that a major policy debate would develop in the inner councils of the Bush administration about what the United States could do to strengthen Mikhail Gorbachev as a Soviet leader? But because there are increasing indications that the Soviet leader is in trouble and because the Bush administration believes that the daring reforms he has introduced in the life and policies of the Soviet Union are in the interest of the West, the question has now arisen what can be done to strengthen him.

Perestroika, his economic reform policy, is now widely considered a failure, certainly by the average Soviet citizen, who finds less food available in the shops than, say, five years ago and glasnost, his political and intellectual reform, is coming under increasing criticism by the conservative opposition. There are also reports from those who have seen him lately that he looks drawn in his face and that some of his enthusiasm and spark are gone.

There is of course nothing decisive the United States can do to help Gorbachev; a view he seems to share. It is up to him and the Soviet government to make the economy work. But, after so many years of mismanagement that is an almost impossible task. The United States does not have the money today it used to have when it provided war-torn Europe with Marshall plan aid, in fact, it has great difficulty reducing its own huge budget deficit. Actually, Gorbachev has said that he does not see a solution in loans or credits from abroad. West German banks and industries have offered him close to \$2 billion in credits and so far he has not fully used them.

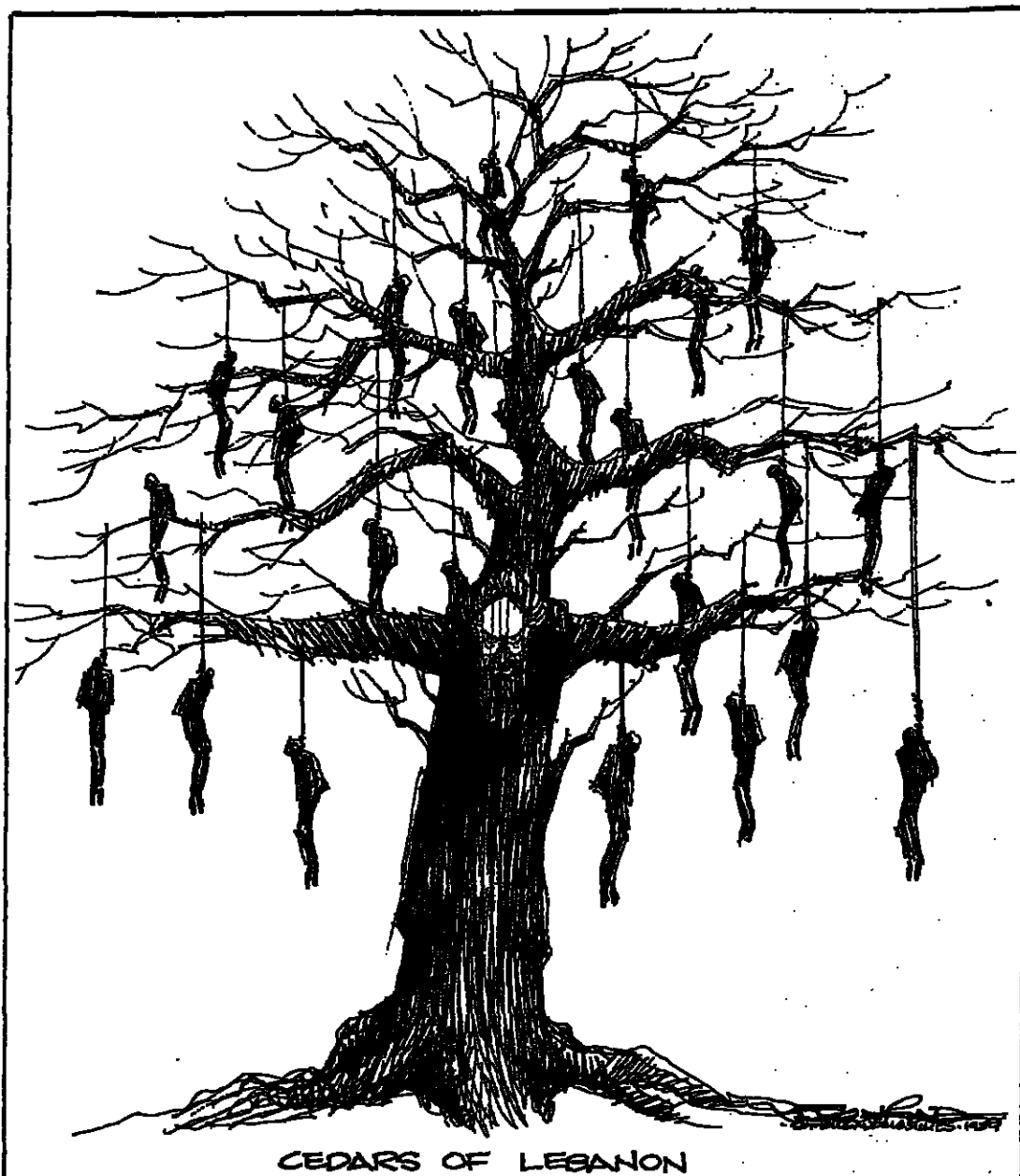
One limited but nevertheless helping action that is virtually certain to be taken by the next Congress is the lifting of the so-called Jackson-Vanik amendment which deprived the Soviet Union of the advantage of the Most Favoured Nation trading clause. Former Congressman Vanik, who sponsored the amendment together with the late Senator Henry Jackson, is now advocating that it be either suspended for at least a year or scrapped altogether. The original purpose of the amendment was to put pressure on the Soviet Union to liberalise Jewish emigration to Israel. Instead, it led to a drop to only 500 emigrants a year. Under Gorbachev, however, emigration — on Soviet initiative — rose to 22,000 in 1988 and this year it is likely that 50,000 Jews will be allowed to leave the Soviet Union. It is not surprising therefore that many Jewish-American organisations which once favoured the Jackson-Vanik amendment, now support its cancellation.

Vast changes are also in progress, next door to the Soviet Union, in Poland. Nobody, even a month ago, would have guessed that Poland would so soon be governed by a non-Communist Prime Minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki. It is of course in the Western interest for the new Polish government to prove that it can do more for its people than the communist one. Poland has already been promised \$119 million in aid over the next three years by President Bush. But Lech Walesa, the true leader of the anti-Communist crusade, has said that Poland's economy needs an infusion of \$10 billion in Western capital and investment. Such a sum however is impossible to raise.

Furthermore, State Department officials make the point that Washington must be careful not to create the impression in Moscow that the US and its allies want to bribe Poland away from the Soviet sphere of influence. It could be used by the conservative opposition as proof that Gorbachev's policies are playing into the hands of the West, that they undermine Soviet interests and that the cold war is not over.

Developments in Poland could start unrest in East Germany and Czechoslovakia. The East German leadership reportedly is alarmed by the existence of the first non-communist government within Eastern Europe and, so, no doubt, will be the Czechs. Gorbachev has pledged that the Soviet Union will not try to reverse events in Poland either by political pressure or military force, which must be reassuring to the West, but, no doubt, upsetting to other communist governments. Gorbachev obviously realises that any outside interference would make a mockery out of glasnost.

A major change seems to be also in progress in Iran which could have considerable repercussions on the rest of the Middle East. American officials are heartened by Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani



assuming the presidency and the courage he showed by excluding the hardline fundamentalist Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, who used to occupy a key position in the last government as minister of the interior. The fact that Rafsanjani felt strong enough to do that may be an indication that he will move fairly soon in trying to normalise relations with a number of countries vital to Iran's economic recovery.

Assumed

It is assumed here that he played an important role in helping to postpone the death sentence on Joseph Cicippio but it may take considerable time before he can obtain the release of all the hostages. No doubt, he is a shrewd politician. He neutralised Khomeini's son, Ahmed, and he got rid of Prime Minister Mir Hussein Mousavi by simply abolishing that position. He is now faced with a situation in which he needs the United States to unfreeze several billion dollars and the co-operation of several other Western governments to cure his domestic crisis. But he will only get such co-operation if the hostages are released. Only the next few months will show whether the new president has the political pull with the various factions of Hezbollah and whether he will consider himself sufficiently safe in his political saddle to use it.

Behind the scenes diplomacy is in full swing to find a way out of the hostage crisis. One of the ablest among the intermediaries is Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Yakub Khan, who has been stationed as an ambassador in Washington, Moscow, Paris to mention only the most important assignments. He is an intellectual who speaks fluent French, Russian and German. He has a very subtle brain and if he can't find a way out no body can. There are other diplomats who are trying to help, above all the Algerian who is former President Carter's and Reagan's days helped to resolve the hostage crisis of those days.

President Bush, too, is trying to play a very tricky game of diplomacy. He wants to do everything possible to free the hostages, but does not want to be directly involved. I understand, however, that he is

following every diplomatic move with great care, and that he would be willing to release the frozen Iranian funds if all hostages are released. There are however many Americans critical of such an implied deal because they believe that this would only lead to more hostages being taken whenever a quid-pro-quo for a diplomatic deal becomes desirable.

A political earthquake has also occurred in China, much to the disappointment of President Bush who feels a particular personal attachment to this country, ever since he served there as ambassador. The general assumption here is that the conservatives who have assumed control after the student demonstration, will fall in consolidating their power and will, within a relatively short time, be replaced by more liberal politicians. One reason for this prediction is the knowledge that there are major conflicts between those currently in charge, conflicts that are likely to cause the disintegration of this government. President Bush resisted Congressional pressures of various kinds to express American displeasure with the current repressive government, including the withdrawal of the American ambassador for Beijing, cuts in trade and credits. But when the Chinese Ambassador Ran Xu ended his long tour of duty in Washington last week the highest American official allowed to attend his own farewell party was an assistant secretary of the State Department.

Nobody is quite certain about the number of Chinese students who attended American educational facilities or have more recently managed to flee China via Hong Kong, but it goes into many thousands. When asked an American official whether the issuing of permits to so many thousands is welcome, he replied that these students provide American scientists with researchers that are hard to get.

Last, but not least, arms control negotiations between the US and the Soviet Union are making encouraging progress. Not as fast as President Bush predicted, but it is clear that one way Gorbachev wants to cut his budget through major savings in his military budget.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fact or fiction

SIR: I am writing to your newspaper after more than 5 years since I had concluded it is waste of time and stationery to write to newspapers.

However, I wanted to convey to you, this time, my surprise at your getting unduly interested in the political muck in India in the pre-election period.

Your choice of news items for the front page and also the headlines, appears to be biased. This has been noticeable for a few years now.

The news reporter who did the write up in A.T. Aug 20 (Singh Soiled) mentions six deposits having been made, accounts opened and emptied. Furthermore, the account number and name of account holder is also indicated in a definitive tone on the strength of "copies of bank's audited and certified documents obtained by Arab Times."

The word "obtained" would clearly mean that some efforts were made to secure the documents. It is as if a detective agency is snooping around other people's private accounts.

Most surprising is how any bank could just give away information on financial operation of its clients. In commercial matters it is a common practice for banks exchanging information among themselves.

Again, in A.T. of Aug 22, headlines scream on the same subject (as if nothing else more important is available to Arab Times) and Jadranka Porter takes the credit, so to say, for "The allegation, first published in the Sunday issue of the Arab Times."

How can a statement be an allegation when on one side you claim possession of audited and certified documents?

I don't know if there is any code of conduct in journalism, but for one thing, it is a healthy practice to give factual, definitive information. A weak journalist, who just want to make his or her day, will come out with some statements, well guarded by the words put in inverted commas or by using terms like: "allegedly", "political sources", "sources who wish to remain anonymous."

Yellow journalism is for those newspaper and magazines who have poor acceptance from the readers. I am certain Arab Times does not require any such ploys as, on its own, it enjoys wide circulation.

tion. A first class newspaper never does anything cheap.

In India, like any other country, there are the black and white areas. It all depends upon the newspapers policy as to what and how it wants to project. It is unfortunate we are made to read more of the negative than the positive developments in India. Would it not be better for the news media to contribute in the process of peace everywhere rather than blow up small issues and give them undue coverage?

Your reader I.F. Ahmed, has rightly felt offended by your Aug 21, page 1 headline: "Thief may steal the show". It is extremely outrageous that the prime minister of a country which is so friendly with Kuwait should have been mentioned in this vein.

It is hoped that you will choose your reportable news carefully and situate them appropriately in the newspaper.

Vijay Puri,
Safat.

Washington brinkmanship

SIR: Pro-Israeli organisations in Washington are demanding swift and sure retaliation to avenge the reported killing of Marine Lieut Col Higgins by pro-Hezbollah factions in Lebanon. A more rational, sensible proposition would be for America to demand \$250,000 by way of compensation for a captive taken hostage, to be paid to the wife and dependants for loss of a breadwinner, and his debts to banks etc. The US could demand a punitive US\$100 million for loss of reputation resulting from these hostage takings. Iran would have to make good all these payments within a stipulated period otherwise its fund in the US would be frozen. This would place a heavy burden on Iran for pursuing a course of terrorism and remove funds set apart for such activities.

Iran's pragmatic President would thus be moved to stop and punish all those responsible for such reprehensible, uncivilised actions, for else he will forfeit the West's improved relations he is reportedly seeking. But he should also be compensated for the loss of pro-Islamic support by the US abrogating all sanctions against Iran under the changed conditions, and even offer economic aid with no strings

attached to rehabilitate that war-ravaged country. This would allow Iran to join the mainstream of politics. A guaranteeing respect for Islam and other religious would go a long way to appeasing volatile sentiments — the fundamental cause behind such intifada.

Jeremy Thorne,
Connecticut, USA.

Losing out

SIR: I am a regular reader of Arab Times and it is a pleasure to see that the newspaper covers a wide range of topics which makes it so popular that without a reading of the days newspaper, the day never really starts.

I bring to your attention the following anomaly regarding the telephone connection procedures recently announced by the Ministry of Communications, in particular, the condition seeking a bank guarantee for KD500 for each telephone connection for private individuals to have the overseas dialling facility. The authorities have not realised that this recent change would only make them lose revenue in the longer run rather than provide any gains. The measure, though adopted to safeguarding their interests, seems counterproductive when we look at the subject from another angle.

The people who opted not to pay the KD500 guarantee and had their facilities for overseas dialling cut off resort to another procedure. They instead receive calls from outside. Thus, most of them get what they want without having to pay any charges for such calls to the Ministry of Communications as these calls will be paid for by their friends abroad, where charges are also lower. A survey of the people who did not opt for overseas dialling facility by giving KD500 guarantee will definitely reveal that they constitute a sizeable percentage who were hitherto paying telephone tariffs regularly.

In order to save a small sum owed by defaulting individuals, the ministry have in fact lost a much larger amount — the income from the overseas calls previously made on these telephones. There are so many other ways and means to achieve a better arrear-free situation than that adopted by the ministry.

One Interested.

Beirut then

Memories of days past

AFTER 14 years of vicious civil war, Beirut is a nearly deserted maze of artillery-riddled buildings and garbage-strewn streets.

But the Lebanese capital used to be an intellectual centre and vital contact point for business people, known as the "Paris of the Middle East" for its high living and high finance.

Only a handful of foreigners remain from the estimated 100,000 — Western and Arab — who once mingled with a heady mix of Arab princes, high-rollers, emigres, adventurers and Lebanon's 17 Christian and Muslim sects.

A veneer of Western culture was superimposed on the fragile sectarian structure imposed by the French when they granted Lebanon independence in 1943, masking a volcano of hatreds seething beneath the exuberance and sophistication.

The city had great natural beauty. Its luxury hotels, apartments and office blocks gleamed between the blue Mediterranean and pine-covered mountains.

Non-Lebanese Arabs, constrained at home by puritanical Muslim rules or brutal dictators, could kick up their heels with liquor, women or 1,000-pound (300-dollar) roulette chips and voice their political opinions freely in the Arab world's only working democracy.

Westerners came to mine the rich lode of oil money, buying into several dozen Lebanese banks or opening their own offices.

New York's Citibank decorated a full floor in its office annex at the Holiday Inn with imported carpets and furniture. A few months later, it was looted and destroyed as rival militias battled for the strategic high-rise buildings along what became the green line that divides the capital into Christian and Muslim sectors.

Westerners were attracted by the combination of modern amenities with the oriental flavour of the old gold souk, the cosmopolitan society and Middle Eastern food.

The last English-language Beirut guidebook published before the civil war noted: "Everywhere you will feel the warm Eastern hospitality. One thing a foreigner in Beirut need never worry about is making friends."

Scores

Fourteen years later, scores of foreigners have been kidnapped, most of them by virulently anti-Western Muslim groups. Sixteen are still held hostage.

More than 150,000 Lebanese, mostly civilians, have been killed; another 1 million have been displaced.

The burnt-out hulks of the St Georges, Palm Beach, Phoenix and Holiday Inn hotels are clustered in what once was Beirut's tourist centre. It now is a sepulchral ruin, inhabited only by militia snipers.

In the old days, one could sit in the St Georges' celebrated restaurant and watch the water-skiing skimming behind the latest Italian speedboats.

At night, many went to the great Casino de Liban, north of the city in what is now Christian territory, to gamble or watch two imported floor shows.

Those with the right connections might attend functions dominated by the doyen of high society, Isabelle Soursock. She was from an old-money Lebanese Christian family and became Lady Isabelle when she married an English knight, Sir Desmond Hamilton.

Or they might be invited to the museum-like house of Henri Pharaon, a bachelor shipping millionaire who lived among priceless Islamic art treasures and pictures of horses he raced at Beirut's lively track against the ponies of Saudi princes.

The track on the green line is now wrecked, a nightmare landscape of bullet-splintered trees and shell holes.

Beirut also had a serious side before the war, based on the presence of the American University of Beirut and large numbers of Arab intellectuals who fled prosecution in their own countries.

"The Arab emigres contributed to the city more than the Lebanese socialites," said Charles Snow, an old economist who lived many years in Beirut before moving to Cyprus in 1976.

The American University and Medical School once had 5,000 students and produced a large share of the Arab world's professional, academic and political leaders.

Rash

They included George Habash, chief of the hard-line Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who masterminded a rash of airline hijackings in the 1970s.

Five months of shelling by rival Syrian and Christian forces has closed the university, at least temporarily. Several of its officials have been kidnapped.

Adjoining the university's park-like campus was the American community school where children of expatriate families studied and played baseball. Some tried the pinball machines at Anwar's, where many British and American boys learned Arabic insults from local youngsters.

Quote me

"This plan is going to be the acid test for the Cambodian factions. If they don't sit down and negotiate on it, it means they are not yet ready for peace and there is no chance of a comprehensive settlement at the conference." — One Western diplomat said of the Franco-Indonesian peace plan for Cambodia.

"From what the people now reaching the West are saying, we know that it is above all the rigidity of the system there and the lack of any hope for change that is leading them to turn their backs on East Germany." — W. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said about E. Germany's refusal to reform its communist system.

"The defendant told police that he hated shoulder runners and if he tried he would have squashed him. He (Johnson) overreacted to the situation — certainly not wanting to harm anyone but just to be left alone." — Martin Karbel, Ben Johnson's lawyer said.

"We have shown our joint wish to no longer live under a one-party state but in democracy and justice, with full human and civil rights." — Dana Nemcova, the Charter 77 human rights spokeswoman said, expressing gratitude for the support shown by small groups of activists from Czechoslovakia's East bloc neighbours.

PLO may review peace bid: Arafat

Three more Arabs die in occupied areas

AMMAN, Aug 22. (Agencies): Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said today the PLO might rethink its peace drive unless the United States and Israel responded to it.

He said he might convene the Palestinian parliament-in-exile to consider the results of its decision in November to pursue a moderate policy based on a Palestinian state co-existing with Israel.

"Patience has limits," Arafat, chairman of the PLO, told a news conference in the Jordanian capital Amman.

"At the end I am obliged to call for our PNC (Palestine National Council) ... and they will decide what policy they are going to take."

He said the PLO might call for full-scale civil disobedience to step up the 20-month-old uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories and was considering other tactics which he declined to discuss.

"I am not going to deceive my people. They have the right to know the facts ... they have to understand the Israeli policy, Israeli crimes and the conspiracy they (Palestinians) are facing," Arafat said.

Collaborators to be given a chance

Killings defended

AMMAN, Aug 22. (AP): Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat today compared the killing of Palestinian collaborators with the slaying of Europeans who aided Nazi occupation forces during World War II.

Asked about increasing Arab attacks on alleged collaborators in the occupied territories, Arafat replied in a challenging tone: "Are you against it? Are you against it?"

"They are quislings, those who are co-ordinating with our enemies," Arafat said.

"How many quislings had been killed in Europe during the Nazi occupation? And even after the withdrawal, you remembered what hap-

pened in Paris?" he said, referring to attacks on Frenchmen who collaborated with German forces during World War II.

But he said Arabs collaborating with Israel should be given a chance to repent, and he said they should be singled out for punishment only by the Palestinian leadership, not individuals.

Arabs have slain 97 accused collaborators during the 20 months of the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

A group of prominent Palestinians met with Israeli legislators in the occupied Gaza Strip today despite warnings from the underground leadership of the uprising not to do so.

The PNC, or Parliament, approved a peace strategy in November calling for an independent Palestinian state to co-exist with Israel in its pre-1967 borders.

In December Arafat met US conditions for a dialogue with the PLO when he renounced terrorism and accepted Israel's right to exist.

The PLO has complained that the talks with Washington have moved too slowly and have not addressed PLO ideas on peace.

Washington wants the PLO to accept in some form an Israeli proposal for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to choose Palestinians to negotiate self-rule.

The PLO wants elections only in the context of an Israeli withdrawal and eventual creation of an independent state.

Arafat said Israel had intensified what he called oppression against the Palestinian uprising.

He named six Palestinians he said had been killed by the Israelis in the occupied territories in less than 24 hours. Eighteen had been killed since Saturday, he said.

Arafat waved a magnetic identity card, introduced by Israel on Friday, which must now be carried by more than 60,000 Gaza Palestinians who work in Israel.

"These six new martyrs are an example of Israel's iron fist policies. The magnetic cards are another example of Israeli discrimination against Palestinians," he said several times.

"I would like to ask (US President George) Bush, who keeps defending human rights, what he thinks of these cards and of the killings," Arafat said.

"Where is the American position on human rights? Or does that ... stop when it comes to talking about rights of the Palestinians?"

Focus

Arafat said the PLO raised Israel's measures against Palestinians at every meeting it had had with the Americans. "The only reply we get from them is to focus on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's (election) plan," he said.

"The Americans are even neglecting our peace initiative backed by all the Arab countries and calls by 138 countries for the convening of an international peace conference."

Arafat also warned today against what he called a conspiracy to drive more than 50,000 Palestinians from Lebanon and settle them in Jordan.

Arafat said 85 Palestinian families had been forced out of Wadi Zeina and Jiyeh south of Beirut last week as the first step in a "dangerous conspiracy aimed at finding an alternative home for Palestinians in Jordan."

Pro-Syrian Druze militiamen expelled more than 80 pro-Arafat families from Jiyeh and Wadi Zeina 10 days ago. They had lived there since 1976 when Christian militiamen drove them out of Beirut.

US envoy to the United Nations Thomas Pickering has underlined the current American administration's interest to continue dialogue with the PLO.

Three more young Palestinians died in the occupied territories today. Arab sources said the dead included 17-year-old Nasser Shahin, whose beaten body was found with a bullet wound in his heart outside the Al Amari refugee camp near Ramallah today.

Residents of Al Amari said troops had arrested Shahin last night, but military sources denied this.

The recovery of Shahin's body came as Washington asked Israel for the results of an autopsy on 14-year-old Amjad Hussein Jibreen, which the Army said proved he was not killed by Israeli security forces.

Repeating to criticism that Iran did not allow Cooper to attend the funeral, Vaezi said the father of an Iranian serving a 10-year jail term in Britain had died while his son was in prison.

"Cooper is charged with spying during the Iran-Iraq war and only the judiciary ... can decide on his case based on the charges filed against him," he said.

Vaezi's conditional offer appeared to mark a softening of Iran's position. The Iranian parliament has so far insisted that relations could only be recognised if Britain were to end its support for Russia and his novel.

Other West European states reacted to the Rushdie affair by temporarily withdrawing their ambassadors from Tehran, but did not cut ties with Iran.

"The West, and Britain in particular, has not given due attention and respect to Islamic values which are the foundations of the Islamic republic," Vaezi was quoted as saying.

"This is the reason for the various fluctuations in relations between Iran and Western countries," he added.

British government officials reiterated London's view that while understanding the sensitivities of Muslims, it was not up to the British government to ban the book.

The government officials reiterated the death threats against a British citizen from whatever quarter were completely unacceptable.

Iran's new President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has called for better ties with the West as part of efforts to rebuild his country's war-shattered economy.



Time out

Christian old men smoking hubble bubble in east Beirut yesterday. The men took advantage of the morning lull to resume their normal life before they sneak into underground shelters at the evening as battles usually erupt across Beirut's Green Line between Syrian and Christian forces (Reuters wirephoto)

ground shelters at the evening as battles usually erupt across Beirut's Green Line between Syrian and Christian forces (Reuters wirephoto)

Striking a balance

Lebanese envoy on both sides

WASHINGTON, Aug 22. (Reuters): Although Lebanon's civil war has spawned two rival governments, one ambassador continues to represent the country in Washington with a carefully balanced staff that includes both Christians and Muslims.

Ambassador Abdallah Bouhabib, a Maronite Catholic, is assisted by a Muslim first secretary and three other diplomats, plus support staff, who work from a four-storey embassy in a quiet Washington residential street.

The embassy is part of a unitary diplomatic service, an artefact of the governing system that once prevailed in Beirut, dividing power among Lebanon's diverse religious mix.

"Half the embassies around the world are headed by Christians and the other half are headed by Muslims," Bouhabib said in an interview.

Bouhabib, ambassador in Washington since 1983, says members of his staff have regular contacts with the State Department and have an opportunity to put across their own views on the fighting in Beirut.

"They go have coffee together they go have lunch together," Bouhabib said of his colleagues and State Department officials. "I encourage them to do that."

"I'd rather have my Muslim colleagues here represent the Muslim point of view to the State

Department than having a free lancer go and tell them. 'This is the point of view of the Muslims'."

The Muslim government's Prime Minister, Selim Hoss, sent an envoy to Washington several months ago for talks with the State Department.

The emissary, Elias Saba, said at a Washington reception that Bouhabib did not speak for the Muslim government. But he stopped short of challenging the legitimacy of the embassy.

A senior Arab diplomat, who would have every reason for antipathy to Bouhabib, underscored the importance of the Lebanese Embassy.

"Thank God we don't have two embassies as we have two governments," the diplomat said. "The ambassador expresses the point of view of General (Michel) Aoun (leader of the Christian government), but there is no question of the embassy's legitimacy."

Bouhabib steers clear of casting aspersions of any Lebanese faction, referring to Aoun as the "constitutional prime minister" and Hoss as the "de facto prime minister."

"I have no part of (Lebanese internal problems) as an ambassador, as a diplomat," he said. "And I shouldn't."

But he does join Aoun in directing his anger against Syria.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iranian reversal

NICOSIA, Aug 22. (Reuters): Iran's top officials have ruled that Kermanshah, an ancient city in western Iran, can resume its historic name in spite of the royal ending "shah."

Anti-monarchist zealots renamed it after the 1979 Islamic revolution topped Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. It was "Bakhtaran" in official correspondence, maps and the press, but the new name did not catch on with the people.

At least a dozen Iranian cities and towns plus countless streets, schools, hospitals and other institutions dropped names containing "shah." Return to "Kermanshah" is the first major reversal.

Strikers occupy

ALGIERS, Aug 22. (Reuters): Workers on strike over non-receipt of pay have occupied the town hall in the village of Freha, 50 km (95 miles) east of Algiers, the Algerian news agency APS reported today.

The agency said 178 workers, on strike for several weeks, occupied the town hall yesterday to press demands for three months in back wages from a municipal contracting company.

The company director was quoted as saying he could not pay until the company, already heavily in debt, itself received money owed.

Forced to quit

KHARTOUM, Aug 22. (Reuters): The man whose efforts helped to save hundreds of thousands of people from starvation in rebel-infested south Sudan said he had quit the UN because of bitter rivalries within it.

Canadian Bryan Wonnop said the success of UN relief efforts in impoverished Sudan had been marred by bickering and bureaucracy.

Wonnop was Sudan representative for the UN development programme and the co-ordinator of Operation Lifeline in war-ravaged south Sudan.

Senegal also ordered all Mauritanian diplomatic personnel to leave within 24 hours.

But Foreign Minister Ibrahim Fall told a news conference today: "Senegal remains committed to seeking a peaceful solution to its disputes with neighbouring countries."

He added, however, that "no-one should be misled about our government's determination to protect its sovereignty, its territorial integrity and its independence by all means deemed necessary."



Rare appearance

Former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, in a rare public appearance, smiled faintly at photographers today when he left hospital after a week's treatment for fatigue.

His daughter Hassia grasping his arm and wearing a well-pressed navy suit, he walked out of Shaare Zedek Medical Centre for the short drive to the occupied Jerusalem house where he lives in seclusion.

Rebels kill 4

ANKARA, Aug 22. (Reuters): Autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels killed four people in an eastern Turkish village and kidnapped 19 youths from two others, official sources said today.

A group of 40 rebels of the banned Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) raided Aktas village of Bingol province last night and gunned down four men, they said.

Diplomats said Senegal's move was aimed at regaining the upper hand in the dispute with its West African neighbour ahead of peace talks to be mediated by Egypt.

Egyptian President Mubarak, newly-elected chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), is due to visit both countries next month to mediate in the dispute. The heads a special six-nation OAU committee set up in July.

"Senegal continues to place high hopes in Egypt's mediation," Fall told reporters.

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Aoun's peace offer rejected

(Continued from Page 1)

The Sunnis' acting mufti, or religious guide, Sheikh Mohammed Rashid Kabbani, also said "violence cannot produce solutions."

Kabbani, in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Nation, the most popular radio station in the Muslim sector, cautioned France to use "with great wisdom" its naval force in the Mediterranean.

Defence Ministry sources in Paris said the anti-submarine destroyer Jean de Vienne and the oil supply ship Meuse are to join six other vessels heading for or already operating off Lebanon in what France has described as a humanitarian mission.

The flotilla also includes the aircraft carrier Foch, the anti-aircraft destroyer Cassard, the landing barge Orage, the destroyer Duquesne, the frigate Estienne d'Orves and the oil supply ship, Var.

Aoun made his peace offer after the French naval buildup in the Mediterranean, which was described by Syria's Muslim and leftist allies as an attempt by Paris to revive its dominance over the region.

Syria, which considers Lebanon within its sphere of influence, has not commented on Aoun's peace offer.

But Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, Syria's closest ally in the confrontation with Aoun, described it as "a trick to allow Aoun a breathing spell to rearm and marshal his forces."

Meanwhile, the command of Syrian-backed leftist militias claimed its gunmen opened up at six unidentified ships before dawn, preventing them from docking at Christian ports.

A statement issued by the operations room of the Nationalist Front said its gunmen "scored direct hits on the lead ship, forcing the whole group to sail away."

A spokesman for Aoun's command, speaking on condition of anonymity, described the claims as "baseball."

"To begin with, there were no ships heading to our ports this morning. Also no force in Lebanon but the Syrian army is capable of detecting and opening fire at a moving maritime target," the spokesman said.

The Syrians, he said, are "under Arab and international pressure to stop their involvement in Lebanon."

Muslim security sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Syrians also were sending additional tanks, howitzers and mortars to the 22,000-strong Muslim army units of Maj. Gen. Sami Khatib and Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party militia.

One source said the Syrians "have been flooding their allies with weapons and ammunition for more than a week now. It seems they are preparing them for a major battle with Aoun."

Saudi Arabian King Fahd said yesterday that Lebanon's Christian and Muslim leaders must start co-operating if a settlement is to be reached in Lebanon's 14-year civil war.

The king's statement at a weekly cabinet session was relayed by Information Minister Ali Al Shuaib to the state-run Saudi media.

It effectively quashed reports that Fahd was about to resume a mediation bid he undertook along with King Hassan of Morocco and President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria.

A Soviet envoy arrived in Damascus today for talks with Syrian leaders which will cover the fighting in Lebanon, Soviet diplomats said.

The American University of Beirut's acting president said today the prestigious academic institute will never move out of the Lebanese capital despite the fighting that has forced it to suspend classes for more than five months.

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Three men in a boat — 100 years on

FEELING overworked, in need of a rest and a complete change of scene? One hundred years ago, three men were racking their brains for just such a novel vacation when George came up with the answer: "Let's go up the river."

The river in question was the Thames and their subsequent time afloat accompanied by Montmorency the dog — is related in Jerome K. Jerome's absorbing and amusing book, "Three Men in a Boat," published 100 years ago this September.

Planned as a guide to the Thames, the book turned out less of a travelogue than a chronicle of adventures and mishaps that befell the boatmen en route, with numerous digressions on often unrelated topics, such as the usefulness of a package of strong cheese in emptying a crowded train compartment.

But what above all emerge from the pages of the book (as true in 1989 as 1889) are the charms and delights of a holiday on the Thames — a river steeped in history and lined by pretty villages, historic houses, handsome towns and beautiful scenery.

Among the companies offering self-drive holiday boats on the Thames are Blakes and Hosesons, while a British Tourist Authority brochure entitled "Holidays on inland waterways" (available free from overseas offices) outlines some of the opportunities for this type of holiday all over Britain.

Those wishing to explore the Thames, but preferring to stay on dry land, can take to the towpath beside it.

It was at Kingston, 10 miles west of London, that the friends and their dog embarked in their rowing boat. Setting off upriver in their wake, travellers are soon confronted by a palace packed with historic associa-



A view of Thames

tions: Hampton Court, the eighth most visited historic property in Britain, with its famous maze whose hazards are described in Jerome's book.

Further upstream, Windsor Castle comes into view followed by Basildon, an 18th century house set in 400 acres of parkland and Cliveden, former home of the Astors and scene of many glittering house parties, including one which featured in

the recent film "Scandal."

Towns en-route include Henley, famous for its regatta; Windsor; Dorchester, once the cathedral city of Wessex and Mercia; and Marlow with its elegant Georgian houses and 19th century suspension bridge with, alongside it, the Compleat Angler hotel which takes its name from Izaak Walton's classic work, written there in 1653.

Jerome and his friends got as far upriver as Oxford before returning homeward, but others can go further, to Lechlade, where they will be greeted by Old Father Thames himself — a statue reclining beside the lock.

And what better way to pass the time than beside the lock, watching the boats and the people go by? Jerome himself

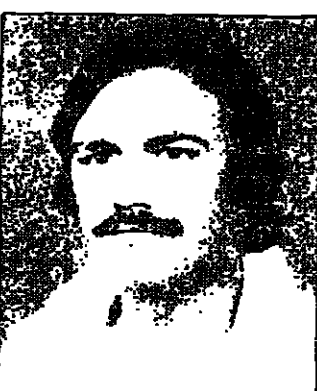
admitted being fond of the Thames' "flower-decked locks" which he described as picturesque little spots, where you meet other boats, river gossip is exchanged and where he liked "sitting in the boat and slowly rising out of the cool depths up into new reaches and fresh views." And the Thames, with its great variety of scenery, always offers fresh views.

Pirelli in KCL finals

PIRELLI Cricket Club defeated New Pak XI by 15 runs in the Summer League, when the two teams met on Friday at Sabah Al Salem (NC) grounds.

Pirelli captain Shabbir won the toss and opted to bat but his decision suffered an early setback when Pirelli lost Nasir and Babar in the very first over bowled by Sakhatwat, this brought G. Haider to join Arshad Shams to steady the innings, both played very sensible innings to entertain the crowd. Haider who played well and scored 72 runs, which contained five boundaries and two sixes. Arshad Shams and Shahzad (SR) were the other contributors with 33 and 29 runs respectively. Pirelli could muster only 167 runs in 22 restricted overs. Sakhatwat claimed three wickets after giving away 36 runs.

New Pak facing a moderate task of scoring 168 runs for victory in 22 overs played very bravely, but could manage 152 runs for the loss of 9 wickets. Amjad 31, Ali 28, Mohammed



G. Haider: 72 runs

Ali 23, Ashraf 12 and Mubashir 10 were the batsmen who entered in double figures. Shahzad (SR) who performed in batting bowled extremely well to grab three vital wickets for 27 runs in five overs. He was ably supported by Amin and Rashid Ansari who chipped three wickets for 36 and two for 17 runs respectively.

Pirelli will meet Evershire in the finals to be played on Friday, Aug 25 at NC Grounds.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newdesk
30 Omnibus
0100 News Summary followed by
Outlook
25 Financial News
30 Help Yourself
45 Country Style
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Tech Talk
30 Bring Your Own Popcorn
0300 World News
09 News About Britain
15 The World Today
30 Discovery
0400 Newdesk
30 Business Matters
45 Country Style (ex 24th and 31st Sports World)
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Financial News
40 Words of Faith
45 The World Today
0600 Newdesk
30 Meridian
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Development '89

0800 World News
09 Words of Faith
15 Business Matters
30 Jazz Score
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Help Yourself
1000 News Summary followed by
Omnibus
30 Jazz for the Asking
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Country Style
30 Meridian
1200 Newdesk
15 They Made Our World
25 The Farming World
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Development '89
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 Business Matters

English

MORNING
0800 Opening

0802 Songs and Music
0830 News in English
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Cultural Horizon
0930 Reggae Rock
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Song and Music
1030 The Years of Pop
1100 Closedown

Urdu

1900 Opening/Holy Quran
1910 Behtareen Qaul
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Subah-e-Nau
2000 News in Urdu
2020 Songs
2040 Hidayate Rabbani
2100 Closedown

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
9.30 Ifrah Ya Simsim: children cultural programme
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Asr Al Hob: daily Arabic serial (Part 5)
11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
11.15 Naseeb: daily local serial (Last part)
12.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
12.30 Hiwar Wa Nagham: variety programme
1.00 News Summary
1.05 The World Today via Satellite
1.30 Sport Billy: cartoon serial
2.00 Variety
2.15 Al Hejra Illa Al Watan: daily Arabic serial (Part 3)
3.00 Mawaqif Wa Khotab: religious programme
3.55 Al Taneen Al Sagheer: cartoon serial
4.00 Football match
6.00 Lila Min Alf Lila: children programme
6.30 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official announcements
7.00 The World About Us
8.00 Variety
8.30 Cultural film
9.00 News in Arabic
10.00 Ana Wa Enta Wa Baab Fi Al Mishmish: daily Arabic serial
10.45 Mahakem Billia Sojoon: Bedouin serial
12.00 News Summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 Trollkins: cartoon serial

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Qahera Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street, Al Tokhaim Building
Al Kawthar Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Mubarak Street, Opp. to the Police Station
Nugra and Hawalli
Al Qatami Pharmacy
Nugra, Beirut Street, Property of Hashem Sons
Sahmya and Rumaidhiya
Al Qods Pharmacy
Extension of Amman Street, Abdul Kareem Al Mezaal Building
Fahsheel and Ahmadi
Al Ahmadi Pharmacy
Ahmadi, Ahmadi Central Market
Old Kheftan
Ghazwa Pharmacy
Northern Street, Opp. to the Police Station
Jahra
Al Abraj Pharmacy
Daabul Al Khozai Street, near the Educational Department



Henry Fonda in The Long Night on KTV2 at 10.30 pm today

6.30 Safari to Adventure: A look at African crocodiles and a call to save them from extinction.
7.00 Danger Bay: "Portege," Young Mark Taylor impresses Grant as a brilliant research assistant, but Mark's ambition proves greater than his talent.
7.30 Body Matters: "Gut Feelings," A look at food as it moves from mouth to stomach. How stomach digests food, stomach ulcer and acidity.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Simon & Simon: "Play it again, Simon," A.G. Simon lives a dream where his brother acts in two personalities: one as "Harlow" who is found dead and the other that helps him trace the murderer.
9.30 Best of British: "The War Game," A look at British films that deal with war activities.
10.00 Learning the Ropes: "Like Father Like Son," Mark feels disappointed when his girlfriend deserted him.
10.30 A Classical film: "The Long Night," Starring: Henry Fonda. A young man shoots the seducer of his sweetheart and barricades himself in a room against the police.
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown



A scene from Simon and Simon.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.
Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.
Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

Kapitku contest
AUGUST 25: Kapitku will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salmiya. This coincides with Aray ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 483447.

Kalpak exhibition
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy

hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

Breeze '89
OCT 26: Tivim Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casmin or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

British Council
THE British Council presents "Briefing on Britain" a special video presentation for students who are going to Britain this autumn for higher education. Will this be your first experience of studying in Britain? If so, and if you would like to participate in complimentary briefing sessions please telephone us to find out more details. Contact Kate Harries, Education Adviser, Tel. 2515512/253 3204/253 3227.

Fiesta Filipiniana
UNDER the auspices of the Philippine embassy here in Kuwait, the Filipino Cultural Club, under the competent leadership of Buddy Patungan, proudly announces to its clamouring fans the comeback of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" with the original cast at its original venue — where else, but at the spacious elegantly-lit Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridian Hotel. Play day is set on Friday Sept 8, 1989, 4 to 7 pm.

For more particulars and ticket reservations, contact Florence — 2436121 or 2439451.

Colva Nite
OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ball Room of Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact Tel: 2413884/2434776/562914/14310913 after 5 pm.

Star DEC
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dira' with Perfect Strangers music. Children entry KD.3/- from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact Tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

Flaskik's contest
FINAL preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this Gulf state.
Flaskik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias announced that auditions are held at the Far East Restaurant on Fridays, August 18 and 25 and 11 am and 4 pm and on Sundays August 13, 20 and 27 at 5 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4 pm, at the Meridian Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly contact the following Flaskik officers: Chary Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Formantes: 4843601, Malon Tadamba: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext. 4221, Marilyn Inductivo: 3940600 ext. 2230 & 4521 and other Flaskik officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

D'Assisi Association
OCTOBER 6: Ninth annual Thanksgiving mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral at 8 am followed by a get-together after mass. All D'Assisi ex-students along with their families and friends are invited. For more details contact: 2444379 or 2469811.

Konkani drama
NOVEMBER 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintnam Zallim Sopnam" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chaplin of Goa 'Jacinto Vaz' along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. For tickets contact Canary Video (Sharq) or Video Club (near GPO).

Italian food festival
EVERY evening upto August 24 at the Ramada's El-Bandar Coffee shop, enjoy our cuisine where you can taste the biggest selection of Italian food such as: Ravioli stuffed with Spanish, Canneloni with Ploas sauce, Tagliatelli with shrimps, and Zuppa Pavese famous soup.

HOTELS

At the SAS hotel
AL GHAZER: SAS hotel's very own handicrafted show. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackle provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 416.

AL BOOM: Dine on charcoal grilled foods and finish off with della coffee. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursday and Friday and for reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

PEACOCK ROOM: Chinese specialties served in a very

cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

EEDAM: Wide varieties of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Eedam daily specials also available.
CLOCK: Only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialties.

At the Kuwait International LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

Falaka: Rooftop restaurant overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext 8012.

Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy our poolside barbecue event every Friday afternoon. La Patisserie: Offers an extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

At the Kuwait Plaza hotel
SPECIAL breakfast: Al-Dallah coffee shop features the breakfast you like most. Full buffet of all kind of delicious dishes to be savoured by you. Eat as much as you can and whatever dish you fancy for only fil.0.995 only.

Special lunch and dinner: Also at Al Dallah coffee shop the buffet for lunch and dinner full of varieties of continental, oriental and Arabic food with Plaza special touch plus delectable sweets and fruits of the

season. All these and more for only KD2.995.

Roman nights: The Italian restaurant in the heart of Kuwait takes you to the heart of Rome. Enjoy our exotic Italian specialties and our wide variety of Italian dishes with the music of our resident duo Stan and Alice.

At the Messilah Beach
AL MUBARAKIAH: The only 24-hour restaurant in Kuwait, offers a full spectrum of local and Continental specialties with daily buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner plus a la carte menu.

Al Jawharah Super Night Club: Live entertainment by the resident "Rainbow" band with extensive a la carte menu on Wednesdays and special buffet on Thursdays.

Al Berdween beach garden restaurant open daily Sunday-Friday offering a variety of succulent charcoal grills, Lebanese mezza, freshly baked markouk bread and hubble bubble.

At the Holiday Inn
AT the coffee shop: A variety of continental and oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5.000 per pax and half price for children.

Al Andalus: Thursday, Arabian night. Savour, the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

Family brunch: Friday, a wholesome day for the children. Bring along your kid and enjoy entertainment from Walt Disney cartoon characters and magic by the great magician. Prizes and surprises awaits each kid. Price KD5.000 for adults, and half per kid.
At the swimming pool: From

8.30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises awaits each one. Bring your family in friends in savour our delicious Sharazad barbecue, at KD5.500 per pax and KD2.750 per child.

At the Pullman Hotel
AL Shallal coffee shop: Offers daily businessman's lunch "autour d'un plat" at a reasonable price. Serves Arabic and international dishes. Live music nightly from 7.30 pm.

Les Elysees Restaurant: Experience the ambience of French seating and meticulous service while savouring authentic French food offered on our "menu degustation," a four course meal served with a touch of nouvelle cuisine. For reservations, call: 5634200

SPORTS

Fit for life
LADIES' Keep Fit classes at La Palma Fitness Centre at the Kuwait International on Sunday.

CINEMA TODAY

Fahsheel Open-air
Judai
Al Firdous
Meri Zaban
Al Fahsheel
Arabic film

Al Jahra
Thor The Conqueror
Granada
Arabic film
Al Sulabikhat
D.O.A.
Al Jieeb
Ninja And Warriors of Fire
Ahmadi Drive-In
Arabic film

Al Andalus
Red Scorpion
Al Salmiya
Arabic Film
Al Ham
Arabic Film

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.57 am
Zuhr	11.51
Asr	3.52 pm
Maghreb	6.20
Isha	7.42

1944



1989

NATIONAL DAY

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

45 years of revolutionary changes

Historic act of Aug 23, 1944 liquidated all domination

ON 23 August the Romanian people celebrate 45 years since the victorious anti-fascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation, event which changed the destiny of Romania's general history, ushering in the era of attaining the ideals of social and national justice of the Romanian people, the epoch of socialism and communism.

The revolution of social and national liberation of August 1944 was conceived and organized on the national soil, being the revolutionary work of the masses of people, led by the Communist Party, the crowning of the Romanian people's glorious past of fight waged for the right to really be master in their country, for progress and civilization.

Seen against the international developments of 45 years ago, the historic act of August 23, 1944 was one of the decisive events of the World War II.

Romania joined the war on the side of the United Nations coalition at a moment when the second world conflagration was far from ending, when Hitler's Germany was far from being defeated. Romania did not raise its arms to safeguard its independence, sovereignty and unity out of reckonings or in a moment of Hitlerite Reich's agony. This fact was acknowledged also by the USSR government, which assessed that Romania joined the war against the Reich "at a moment when Germany's defeat was not clear yet". As a matter of fact, A.I. Vyshinski, USSR representative to the Peace Conference in Paris assessed that Romania took part in the anti-

Hitler war at a moment "when the prospect of the future development of military events were not obvious yet, while Germany's fate was far from being clear."

From a strategic point of view, in an extremely short lapse of time — eight days — Romania's action deprived the German front in Eastern Europe of an area of approximately 150,000 sq. km with important obstacles favouring a long-lasting defence: the Romanian Carpathians range, the Focsani — Namolosa — Galati fortified line, the maritime Danube and others.

Following Romania's act of August 23, 1944, all of a sudden the German strategic disposition in the Balkan Peninsula could no longer be maintained. "The New York Times" stressed in a commentary of those days that "Romania" exit from the war posed the danger of the isolation of the 15 German divisions located in Greece and southern Yugoslavia. This exit turned the Danube Valley, from the Delta to the Romanian-Yugoslav border, from an allied zone into a zone hostile to the Germans."

The August 1944 revolution of social and national liberation had an outstanding importance also for the smashing of Nazi domination in Central Europe. Once joining the war against the Third Reich, the Romanian forces opened a new front in the Transylvanian Plateau and in Banat, on the other side of the Carpathians, which they maintained all by themselves for about three weeks, until the arrival of the Soviet troops. This new front, that stretched along some 900 km from the old dispositions,

provided for a fast advancement towards southern Germany along the Danube Valley. As early as August 23, 1944 a BBC commentary brought to the fore that strategic component of the Romanian action: "Actively helped by the Romanians, the Russians will soon be in Vienna. Through the Carpathian Gate, opened by the Romanians, the Russians will be able to reach Munich and advance to Berlin."

Exceptional

The exceptional military and political consequences of the historic act of August 23, 1944 for the Central and South-Eastern Europe were acknowledged by British Premier Winston Churchill: "Romania's switchover on the side of the Allies proved extremely advantageous for the Russians who will reach Belgrade, Budapest and probably Vienna before the Western powers break the Siegfried line."

Likewise, a commentary of Edward Montgomery broadcast by Radio London on August 24, 1944 stressed that "Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary were for the Germans a defence wall against the Russians. Bulgaria remained isolated following Romania's fall. Probably it will hasten to do what its neighbour did as it has no other choice. What about Hungary? If the Germans force it to fight on their side it will have to stand the attack of the Russians and of the Romanians. Due to its flawless political-military preparation, the turning of arms along 267 of the 654 km of the south-eastern Soviet-German front and the outbreak of fights against the Nazi troops throughout the country were done

immediately and completely, without any organizational or execution fault, considered as unprecedented in the world military armed forces on the anti-Hitler front was also continuous and effective until the defeat of the Third Reich, which was not the case for the armies of other states, former allies of Hitler's Germany."

Starting with August 23, 1944, Romania put all its material and human resources in the service of the fight against Hitler's Germany and its acolytes. Alongside the Soviet troops, the Romanian troops performed feats of legendary heroism, making great material and human sacrifices in the fight for the liberation of Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria, until the victorious end of the second world conflagration.

On May 9, 1945, when the war ended with the victory of the United Nations, Romania was presenting a rich fighting balance-sheet. Its troops covered over 1,700 km from the Black Sea to Bohemia, inflicted losses to the enemy that amounted to more than 136,000 prisoners and dead — the equivalent of 14 divisions — freed over 3,800 settlements, of which 53 towns, besides those they liberated during the insurrection, contributed to chasing occupants away from another several thousands of settlements. On the anti-fascist front, Romania participated with some 540,000 soldiers and officers of whom almost 170,000 were killed, wounded or missing, in fierce fights, being considered in the documents of the time the fourth state,

after the USSR, the USA, England, in point of troops and economic effort, in winning the victory.

The total military spending of the Romanian state over August 24, 1944 — May 12, 1945 for the defeat of Hitler's Germany and Horthy's Hungary amounted to the huge sum of 470 billion lei (at the May 1945 rate). If we consider Romania's 1938/1939 budget that was of 30,649,956,000 lei, the military spending was over 15 times the state budget, representing an enormous effort for the Romanian people if we also take into consideration Romania's obligations under the armistice convention.

Whole

By disintegrating the whole German military system in South-Eastern Europe, by depriving the Reich of fuel and other supplies, through the chain political crisis it brought about in Bulgaria, Hungary and Croatia, by taking Romania on the side of the anti-Hitler coalition, the act of August 23, 1944 shortened the war by some 200 days, sparing the continent of further victims, suffering and destruction.

Imprinted forever in the conscience of the Romanian people as an event of paramount importance, the act of 23 August 1944 acquires new national and international significances with every passing year.

In the 45 years elapsed since the epoch-making event of August 1944, dedicatedly and confidently following the party policy, the Romanian people have radically changed the look of the homeland. Led by the Communist Party, the Romanian people have traversed a whole historical epoch — from the system based on exploitation and oppression to the new socialist system in which, free and master of their own destiny, they purposefully make their own history, from the old, poorly developed Romania, with a preponderantly agrarian economy, to present Romania, which boasts a dynamic economy, an industry and agriculture in full swing, an ever higher standard of living, materially and spiritually.

Since 1945 industrial output increased 135 times, farm production grew 10 times and the national income augmented more than 36 times.

In the process of impetuous development of the whole economy, the forces of production and the industry were judiciously and harmoniously distributed throughout Romania's territory providing jobs for the working people in all the regions of the country, hence the necessary conditions for a real equality of rights for all the citizens of the homeland.

Scientific and technological research has seen unprecedented progress, achieving a deep integration of science with education and production.

Concomitantly with the broad access of the masses to the assets of the national and world art, the material base of culture was strongly developed, which stimulated cultural and artistic creation in all its compartments, works of high artistic standing and educative value being created which contribute significantly to enriching the patrimony of the national and world culture.

All conditions have been created for the blossoming and plenary assertion of human personality, with no restrictions, for the guaranteeing, from a material point of view, of the fundamental human rights and freedoms — the right to live, to work, to have a shelter, to education and social care.

Ten-year education has been generalized, while 12-year education — taken at present by almost 80 per cent of the youth — will be also generalized starting with 1990.

As many as 3.3 million flats have been built in towns and several hundreds of thousands in villages so that more than 80 per cent of the country's population lives in new homes.

The continuous rise in the standard of living and the improvement of the quality of life of all the citizens of the country are the foremost goals of the party policy.

The remuneration fund has increased almost 6 fold from 1965, the average remuneration has grown more than 3 times while the lowest remuneration rose over 3.3 times. More than three million people benefit from the pension system while about five million children receive benefits.

If we are to refer only to the 1980-1989 interval, Romania's socio-economic growth has put the conditions in place for the full repayment of the foreign debt and its liquidation in March 1989. This proves the force of the Romanian economy — the foreign debt being paid off in conditions in which 2,000 billion lei (about \$200 billion) have been earmarked for the country's economic and social development over this decade.

Ceausescu: outstanding leader

ROMANIAN President Nicolae Ceausescu is recognised as an outstanding political leader of international repute with his distinctive style in solving the problems which faced his country and his outstanding record as a world statesman who places trust in dialogue as the best way to solve any problems.

Despite the fact that his country occupies a small area on the European map and despite the small population of his country, Ceausescu's efforts to promote the reputation of his people have enabled Romania to participate effectively in world forums on international issues.

Ceausescu hosts periodically leaders of international liberation movements who seek consultation on the issues that face their struggle. These visits together with those of other leaders and politicians, have contributed to the solving of many international problems.

Romania is a socialist country with an individual personality derived from its own civilisation. Its language belongs to the Latin family of languages, and its people have fought bravely to maintain the independence of their country.

The government under Ceausescu has accomplished unique and progressive development plainly discernible by visitors to the country. The main interest of the Romanian government has been focused on using human resources within the context of its Socialist ideology.

The characteristics of a nation is exemplified by its social and economic systems. Most of the ancient civilisations were established on areas where land could be easily cultivated.

The economy of a civilisation is the main source of its power, and it is quite true that when the economy of a nation deteriorates the strength of that nation starts to deteriorate too.

It is through a strong economy that a country can proceed on the path of science and knowledge and maintain its sovereignty and independence.

Romania's location along the Danube River with large fertile



Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu

meadows and mountains makes it a touristic centre in Europe. Apart from tourism, Romania derives its income from oil, being one of the oldest oil countries in the world.

Its oil history goes back 100

years and it produces 12 millions tons of crude oil every year. The government is now launching an ambitious programme to expand oil production through offshore exploration of its territorial waters

The Romanian peoples' adherence to their ancient historical traditions and the leadership of Ceausescu have forged their independent identity despite their country's links with the Eastern bloc.

An extract of President Ceausescu's speech embodies his policies on the international level and reflects his endeavours for the prevalence of justice all over the world:

(...) We firmly stand for the right of each and every people to secure its territorial integrity, and if part of its territory is occupied, it should reconquer it. It is the right and duty of each government, of each head of state to do his best for securing the territorial integrity of the country. And if the way of negotiations can do this, it must be fully used.

It is the right of the peoples who have no country to set up their own homeland, and of those who are under foreign domination, to win their national independence.

That is the reason why we have always supported the Palestinian people to have their own homeland, its own state.

President Ceausescu believes in dialogue as a proper and efficient method to end disputes between countries. His support for Arab world issues is unlimited. He exerted tremendous efforts to put an end to the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Ceausescu is also a strong supporter of the Palestinian people's wish to have their own homeland and establish their own state. He maintains good political and economic relations with Arab leaders.

Romania maintains excellent relations with Kuwait. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad and President Ceausescu exchanged visits in 1981. These visits enhanced the political and economic relations between their countries.

A commentary on those visits said that the summit meeting between Kuwait and Romania had developed the bilateral relations of the two countries and reflected the determination of their leaders to co-operate — contributing to international peace and to the struggle of peoples to build a new world in which peace and justice can prevail.

International initiatives

In the political field

— Actions on a regional plane for improving good neighbourliness relations among European states with different socio-political systems.

— Measures for the promotion among the youth of the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding among peoples.

— The proclamation of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace.

— The responsibility of states not to admit on their territory and refrain from instigating or supporting nationalist, chauvinistic, racist and anti-Semitic manifestations on the territory of other states.

— The enhancement of the role of the United Nations Organization in maintaining and strengthening international peace and security, in developing cooperation among all nations and promoting the norms of international law in interstate relations.

— The conclusion of an all-European treaty on non-recourse to the use and threat of force.

— The peaceful settlement of differences and the setting up of a UN standing commission of good offices, mediation or conciliation.

— The development and consolidation of good neighbourliness among states.

In disarmament

— The proclamation of UN disarmament decades.

— The analysis of "Economic and social consequences of the arms race and its profoundly harmful effects on world peace and security".

— The elaboration of a complex disarmament programme which, while focusing on nuclear disarmament, should set measures for an at least 25 per cent reduction of conventional weapons, troops and military spending until 1990, and for a 50 per cent cut until the year 2000.

— The dissolution of military blocs.

— The dismantlement of foreign military bases and troops withdrawal within national frontiers.

— Beforehand notification of military manoeuvres, limitation of their scope and renunciation of manoeuvres along interstate frontiers.

— Cessation of nuclear tests and conclusion of a universal treaty on their total banning.

— Creation in the Balkans of a zone of peace, good neighbourliness and co-operation, ridged of nuclear and chemical weapons, of foreign military bases and troops.

In the economic field

— The principles of international economic co-

operation.

— The role of modern science and technology in the development of nations and the need to strengthen interstate economic, technical and scientific co-operation.

— The fight against recruitment of trained staff from developing countries.

— The responsibility of states for the safeguarding of man's environment following the accumulation of toxic and radioactive wastes.

— The convening of an European conference on economic co-operation.

— The development of co-operation among European countries in science and technology.

— The capitalization and utilization of human resources.

— The application of information technologies to development.

— The convening of a conference on environmental protection.

— The elimination of obstacles and restrictions with a view to promoting trade among European countries.

— The development of industrial co-operation.

— Cooperation in agriculture.

— The training of staff for the economy.

— Numerous proposals regarding ways and means of solving the developing countries' foreign debt problem.

In the social-humanitarian field

— The promotion of fundamental human rights to peace, to life, work, shelter, education and social assistance.

— The right to education.

— The organization of a conference on crime, alcoholism and drug addiction.

— The organization of an European conference on women's status.

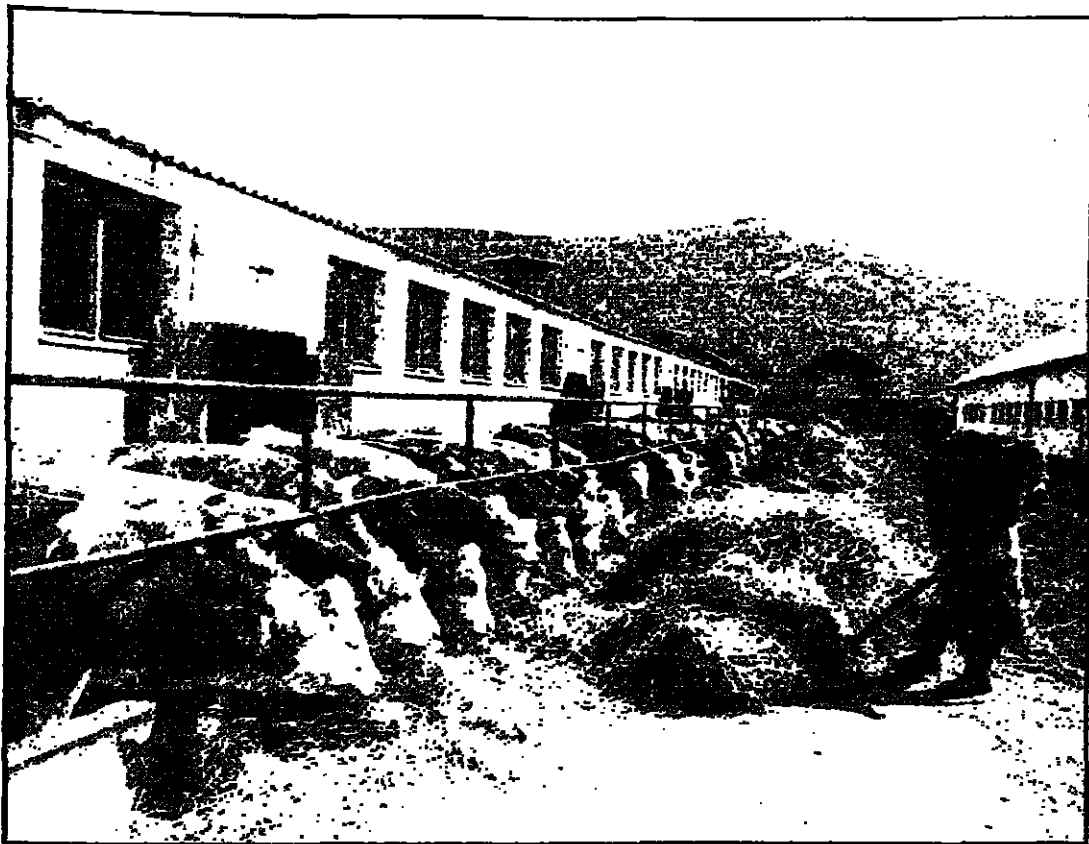
— The convening of an expert meeting on unemployment.

— The organization of a European conference on staff education and training.

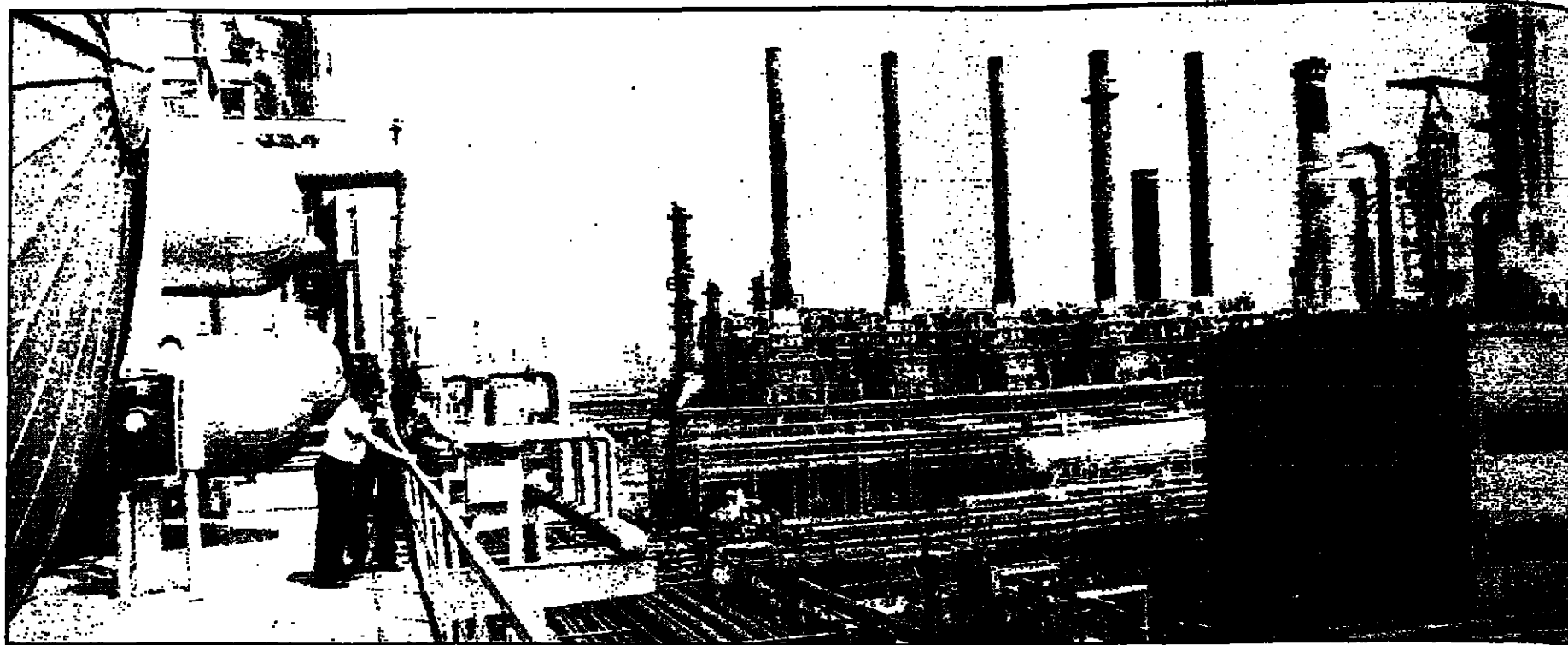
— The convening of an European conference on the situation of the youth.

These initiatives were and are promoted at the United Nations Organization and its specialized agencies, at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and at its follow-up meetings, at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and various other international conferences and meetings.

Some have already been finalized, others have been included in various international documents adopted at the end of conference and security building measures and on disarmament in Europe while other numerous initiatives are to be tabled.



Cattle farm of an agriculture co-operative in Subcarpathian area of Romania (above); a state-run poultry farm (below).



Industrial output today is 135 times larger than in 1945

Romania advances

IN the period elapsed since the victorious anti-fascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation, Romania has undergone deep-going revolutionary changes turning from a poorly developed country into an industrial-agrarian country, with a modern industry, set on the latest breakthroughs of science, with an agriculture in full swing, with a powerfully developed science, education and culture.

About 8,000 industrial, agricultural and other production units have been built throughout the country's territory, some 180 new industrial sites have been created while the existing ones have been modernized.

Grandiose projects have been carried through, recorded by history as expressions of the creative genius of a free people, master of its destiny, such as the large industrial citadels of the metal working, chemical, machine building, power engineering and

other industries the Danube-Black Sea and Poarta Alba-Midia-Navodari canals, the hydropower systems on the Danube, new sea and Danubian ports, the Transfagarasan highway and the tube, large irrigation and land improvement systems in agriculture.

Development of industry

In this year of socialist construction, new and modern industrial branches have developed, equipped with machinery and installations on a par with the most advanced technology. Industrial output is today 135 times larger than in 1945. The chemical industry has increased more than 1,200 times. Metal working industry 82 times, food industry 32 times. Transport, the other sectors of activity have also seen a powerful development.

Development of agriculture

Rehabilitating agriculture as a basic branch of our homeland's socioeconomic development, of socialist construction, steps were taken to powerfully increase farm output, large irrigation systems being built on almost four million hectares and important land improvement works being performed to increase the productive potential of the land. Agriculture has been fully mechanized and chemicalized, conditions being thus put in place to harvest good crops — which in recent years have been of about 30 million tons of cereals — to substantially increase production in all the other sectors of agriculture.

Standard of living

In its entire policy, the party has started from the fact that the rise in the people's material and spiritual standard of living is the fundamental target of the socioeconomic development of our communist party's policy, the very essence of the multilaterally developed socialist society we are successfully building in Romania.



A rise in the material and spiritual standard of living is the primary target of socio-economic development.

Our heartiest greetings
to
President
Nicolae Ceausescu



and
People of Romania on the occasion
of their
National Day

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People of Romania
on the occasion of their National Day



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23rd August, 1989

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Devoted to promotion of international peace

Active foreign policy geared towards deeper understanding

In its foreign policy Romania starts from the interdependence and dialectical unity between the internal and foreign policy, from the fact that for the implementation of its plans and programmes of socio-economic development the Romanian people — like all the world peoples — needs peace, a broad international collaboration.

In the spirit of this principled conception and orientation, Romania has carried on a broadly open foreign policy of active participation in the settlement of the complex world issues, in the achievement of peace, security and disarmament.

Developing its political, economic, technical-scientific relations with all the world states regardless of social

system, Romania puts at the basis of its ties with all foreign partners the principles of full equality of rights, observance of national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage, the observance of each people's right to freely choose its path of socio-economic development without any foreign interference.

The powerful development of our country's economy created the necessary conditions for the active participation in the international division of labour, in the exchange of material and spiritual values with other world states, regardless of social system. Romania's economic exchanges and exchanges of co-operation in production with other states grew over 45 times as compared to 1950.

An important role have the economic and co-operation exchanges with socialist countries the share of which is about 50 per cent of the volume of our foreign trade.

The economic relations with developing countries have continuously grown and today they stand at 25 per cent.

The relations with developed capitalist countries have also developed, their share being of 25 per cent of Romania's foreign trade.

Taking into consideration the current level of international exchanges as well as the programme for the homeland's socio-economic development, we have in view to extend the economic exchanges, the co-operation in production with all states regardless of social system.

Giving pride of place to the activity of implementing the plans and programmes concerning the country's socio-economic development and the successful building of socialism, our party, socialist Romania, have carried on, at the same time, participating with all their forces in the settlement of the great issues of international life, in the fight of disarmament for peace.

We can state that in the period following the Ninth Congress of the party in 1965 there were no important problems to the settlement of which socialist Romania would not have made its active contribution in the interest of detente, disarmament, peace and collaboration among all world nations.

We shall firmly promote in international relations the principles of full equality of rights, observance of national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, mutual advantage, unflinching observance of each nation's right to freely

choose its path of socio-economic development, without any foreign interference.

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Romania is firmly convinced that only the strict observance of these principles is the sure guarantee of the development of inter-state collaboration, the only framework in which understandings can be reached, solutions can be found to any problems no matter how difficult they might be.

Acting in keeping with these fundamental principles, Romania actively participates in the international division of labour, in the bi- and multilateral co-operation in the political, economic, technical-scientific and cultural fields. Today Romania has diplomatic and economic relations with 155 states and is willing to intensify and deepen even more the co-operation and understanding in all the domains and with all the states.

The relations with these countries are based on the solidarity with their fight against imperialist, socialist, neocolonialist, apartheid and racial discrimination policy, for disarmament and peace, for the liquidation of underdevelopment and the insaturation of a new international economic order, for their economic, social and natural emancipation, for their free and independent development.

Romania established and has diplomatic relations with 108 developing countries, of which are 49 African states, 34 Asian states and 25 Latin American states.

The relations with these states already have a long tradition, being firmly based on the moral, political and material support granted by our people along several decades to their peoples, national and social liberation movements.

One of the basic co-ordinates of Romania's international activity is its concern for the building of a just and equitable world, for the insaturation of a new international political and economic order. In Romania opinion, in this context, a highly topical question which should be solved as soon as possible is the settlement of foreign debts which are a burden for the developing countries. All the world countries — rich and poor, underdeveloped, medium developed or powerfully industrialised — should participate in and contribute to achieving a new financial, international policy which should exclude spoliation and domination of the poor countries by the big monopolies and international banks.

The political, negotiated settlement of interstate differences is an imperative of international peace and stability and a co-ordinate of the Romanian foreign policy, Romania declares and works to this end, for the political settlement of the situation in the Middle East, for a just and lasting peace in that region which should ensure the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people, the security and integrity of all the states in the region, Israel included. Romania welcomed and recognised the creation of the independent Palestinian State and will support, as it has done until now too, the attainment of the Palestinian people's aspirations to live in a free, independent homeland in collaboration with its neighbours and with the other peoples.



Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu with HH the Amir of Kuwait.

Romania for closer ties with Kuwait

By Peter D'Souza
Arab Times staff

ROMANIA is anxious to develop better relations with Kuwait at all levels including economic and cultural. This was the assurance recently given to the Arab Times by Ion Mielcioiu, the director of the Middle East Department at the Romanian Foreign Ministry in Bucharest.

The relations between the two countries have been strengthened by the visits of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to

Kuwait in 1976 and 1982, and HH the Amir's visit to Romania in 1981. There is a standing invitation to HH the Amir to visit Romania again.

Kuwait has an economic agreement with Romania signed in 1974, and a cultural agreement signed in 1976. Every three years, new programmes under the cultural agreement are prepared and implemented.

Kuwait and Romania enjoy close co-operation at the United Nations and other international organisations. Romania

accepts a number of Kuwaiti students at its universities and most of the foreign students at Romanian universities are Arabs.

Kuwaiti investors are welcomed in Romania, and an agreement for the protection of investments in both countries may be signed at the end of this year. Romania's industrial activities include mining, forestry, manufacture of construction materials, metal production and processing, chemicals production, machine building and food processing. The tourism industry is also growing rapidly.



On the Happy Occasion of ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY

23rd August 1989

We extend our hearty congratulations and greetings to Romanian President his Excellency Nicolae Ceausescu and Romanian people and expect to further our friendly co-operation in the field of trade and cultural exchanges.



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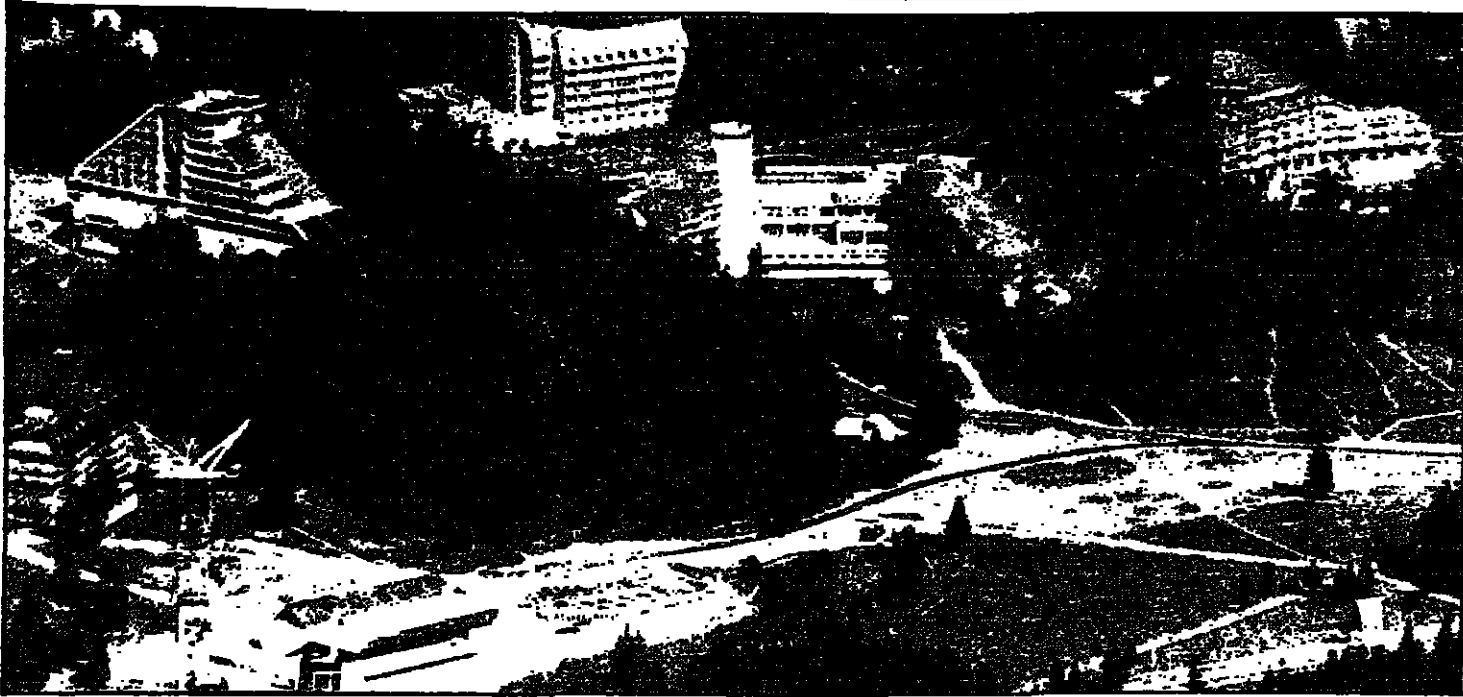


Heartiest greetings to
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Romania's beautiful mountain resorts are frequented by tourists from throughout the world.



Sunny seaside resorts have modern hotels and cozy bungalows with restaurants offering Romanian and international cuisine.

Romania haven for health care, history and relaxation

Tourism expresses wish for peace

ROMANIAN tourism — expressing the wish for peace, friendship and co-operation of the Romanian people — is an open doorway beckoning the Arab friends as well as other visitors from all over the world. A trip to Romania is both pleasant and educational. There are extremely beautiful natural spots characteristic of the area between the Carpathians, the Black Sea and the Danube.

Visitors will be introduced to very old history, original art and culture, a specific folklore, local customs and traditions.

They will be impressed to learn about the results of the peaceful and heroic work of a hospitable nation, well-known for its optimism and cheerfulness.

A journey to Romania also provides the opportunity for a pleasant holiday in the mountains or at the seaside, in a secure and peaceful atmosphere, free from trouble and terrorism.

Those with ailments can seek a cure with natural factors, with original Romanian procedures and medicines.

All visitors are welcome. Romania's tourism facilities have greatly developed in the past 24 years, urged on by the personal drive of President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Holidays in Romania are quite varied and comprehensive.

● Holidays on the Romanian Black Sea Coast: This is where about 3,000 years ago the Argonaut hero Jason searched for the golden fleece and where, at the beginning of our era, Ovid, the Roman poet who wrote of "delicate love" was composing his well-known *Ponticae*.

At present this is a place where the seaside resorts — Mamaia, Eforie, Olimp, Jupiter, Neptun, Aurora, Venus, Saturn and Mangalia, genuine "citadels of the sun" — receive numerous Romanian and foreign guests from the middle of May until the end of September.

All the resorts are provided with modern hotels and cosy bungalows with restaurants offering Romanian and international cuisine. The warm and



Felix Spa

sunny beach, which is not crowded, has fine sand, and slopes gradually into the sea. It is an ideal sunbathing place for children.

● The great number of his-

torical, cultural and art monuments, as well as the museums containing comprehensive and original collections, enable foreign tourists to learn about Dacian and Roman remains, the

Romania offers sunny beaches, snowy slopes, health farms, beauty contests, and historical monuments. A trip to Romania provides, above all, the opportunity for a pleasant holiday in a safe and peaceful atmosphere, free from trouble and terrorism.

Latin origin of the Romanian nation the trouble Middle Ages, the struggle to defend national independence, the cultural and scientific progress of the modern and the extensive development in all fields of activity typical of the socialist age.

All the year round, foreign tourists can choose from a wide range of highly attractive programmes such as:

ROMANIA in legends and tales:

ON THE tracks of the Romans in Dacia;
ON THE tracks of the Argonauts in search of the golden fleece;

ON THE tracks of Jules Verne in Romania;
BUKOVINA's painted monasteries — unique monuments in the world, protected by UNESCO;

CITADELS and castles in Transylvania;

MARAMURES — wood art and architecture;

THE fairy-tale Danube Delta;
ON THE tracks of Constantin Brancusi — the father of modern sculpture;

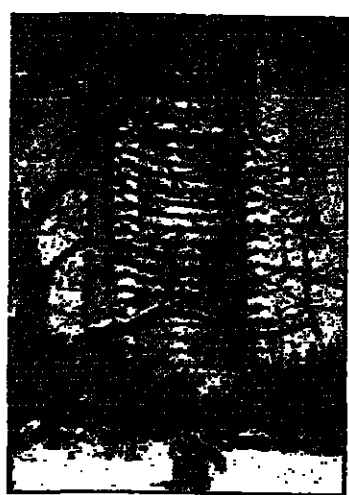
FOLKLORE in the Carpathians; and Dobruja's mosques.

● Winter sports in Simina, Predeal, Poiana Brasov and Palatin: These are beautiful mountain resorts of international standard and fame. Here, tourists from numerous European and other countries can not only practise skiing and other winter sports in a highly picturesque environment but also participate in a great number of attractive programmes such as visiting Bran, Dracula's castle, sledding along mountain roads and visiting shepherds' places.

● Non-stop health holidays in the internationally known spas: These are at Baile Felix, Herculan, Calimanesti-Caculata, Sovata Tusnad, Covasna, Slanic Moldova and Buzias (throughout the country). Eforie Nord, Neptun and Mangalia (on the Black Sea Coast); the "Flora" and "Park" centres and Otopeni Sanatorium (in Bucharest).

All the centres are extremely comfortable, are provided with modern equipment at world level, have high qualified staff and offer original cure procedure in addition to natural cure.

In Romania are located over one-third of Europe's mineral water springs, which, side by side with the sapropelic mud in the Techirghiol and Balta Alba lakes, peat mud, moieties and ozone and aerosol-rich air, efficiently cure a great number of troubles arising from stiff limbs, the peripheral nervous system, the digestive tract, as well as disorders of the liver and gallbladder, kidney, skin cardiovascular ailments and modern illnesses



Hotel Intercontinental

caused by stress, sedentarism and overwork.

Original Romanian medicines are also used: Gerovital H¹ and Aslavital, especially for slowing down the aging process and revitalising the body. Pell-Amar for rheumatism, dermatoses and cosmetic purposes, Boicil Forte

in rheumatism, Ulocsilvanil for gastric ulcer, side by side with apitherapeutic products, acupuncture and presso-puncture.

More than five million tourists visit Romania annually, out of which over 50,000 tourists are from the Arab countries.

It is the country's hope that visitors, from Kuwait will not miss the opportunity to enter Romania's open doorway on TAROM-Romanian Air Transport where *Ont-Carpeti*, Romanian Tourism Enterprise, will be waiting to greet them with cordiality and hospitality.



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&

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to
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Net investment returns up

Kuwait GNP, national income surge

THE Gross Domestic Product of Kuwait estimated at current prices of 1988, dropped last year by 4.9 per cent. The GDP rose in 1987 by 16.5 per cent compared to the previous year. A recent study conducted by the Economic Department of the Kuwait Industrial Bank, based upon recent statistics prepared by the Central Statistics Bureau, attributed this drop to the fact that the GDP from oil dropped in 1988 by 10.3 per cent compared to 1987 while in 1987 it rose by 32.9 per cent compared to the previous year.

It is also attributed to a slight 1.5 per cent drop in the GDP from non-oil sector. The same increased in 1987 by 8.3 per cent compared to 1986. But the study stressed that the GDP in 1988 is still up by 11 per cent from its level in 1986. Similarly, the GDP from oil sector in 1988 at current prices is up by 19 per cent of its level in 1986 and that of non oil sector is up by 7 per cent from 1986.

The drop in oil prices in 1988 compared to 1987 is the main factor responsible for the drop in GDP level in 1988. The drop in GDP from non-oil sector is mostly attributed to a 13 per cent drop in oil products prices in 1988 at a time it shot up by 52 per cent in 1987 compared to 1986. The non-oil sector also includes in it some industries which are based upon oil products. As a result, the study affirmed, the GDP in oil industries sector still exceeded by 32 per cent the level of prices that prevailed in 1986.

Concerning the uses of the national income, the study said that the government consumption estimated at current rates of 1988, increased by 0.4 per cent in 1988 compared to 1987. The government consumption in 1987 dropped by 5 per cent compared to its level in 1986. Government consumption includes the

Principal national accounts aggregates, at current prices, 1986-1988
(Figures in KD million)

Item	(a) 1986	(b) 1987	(c) 1988
Gross Domestic Product at current prices	5,026.36	5,856.71	5,571.40
Plus: Net factor income from abroad	2,182.00	1,504.00	1,978.00
Equals: Gross National Product	7,208.36	7,360.71	7,549.40
Minus: Consumption of fixed capital	454.00	487.00	476.00
Equals: National Income market prices	6,744.36	6,873.71	7,073.40
Plus: Net current transfers from rest of the world	-368.00	-351.00	-368.00
Equals: National disposable income	6,376.36	6,522.71	6,705.40
Minus: Final consumption	4,156.17	4,675.12	4,734.31
Equals: Net saving	2,220.19	1,847.59	1,971.09
Minus: Surplus of the national current transactions	1,565.00	1,303.00	1,315.00
Equals: Net capital formation	655.19	544.59	656.09
Per capita gross domestic product	2,806	3,129	2,845
Per capita gross national product	4,027	3,532	3,856
Per capita national income	3,768	3,672	3,613

Percentage change over the previous year

(i) Total gross domestic product	-4.9	+16.5	-4.8
(ii) Gross domestic product from oil sector	-10.3	+32.9	-10.3
(iii) Gross domestic product from non-oil sector	+8.3	+1.5	-1.5
(iv) Gross national product	+11.0	+2.2	+2.2
(v) National income	+11.0	+1.9	+1.9
(vi) Revised			
(vii) Provisional			

public expenditures excluding wages. But the level of the government consumption in 1988 was still less by 4.3 per cent of its level in 1986.

The study said that the total GDP at current prices in 1988 was KD 5,571.4 million, compared to KD 5,856.71 million in 1987. It added that the GDP in the oil sector was KD 2,001.6 million in 1988 against KD 2,232.2 million in 1987, showing a drop of 10.3 per cent.

The study added that the GDP from non-oil sector (without oil products) remained stagnant in 1988 and was KD 3,039.5 million compared to KD 3,039.5 million in 1987, achieving a slight 0.71 per cent increase. But this was more than overwhelmed by a big drop in oil products income from KD 585 million in 1987 to KD 508.8 million in 1988.

The study added that the

private consuming expenditure increased in 1988 to become the major force that pushed forward the local economic activity during last year. It added that private consumption increased in 1988 by 2 per cent and by 24 per cent of its level in 1986. The gross investments increased also by 10 per cent in 1988. In addition, the gross domestic demand increased by 3 per cent in 1988 compared to a 9 per cent increase in 1987. Thus, the study said, all these factors positively acted for the increase in the GDP in 1988, but this was more than negated by a deficit in the trade balance of commodities and services. In 1987, the balance, the difference between commodities and services exports and imports, achieved a surplus of KD 150 million, while the same was in a deficit of KD 295 million in 1988. As a result, the GDP dropped

in 1988 compared to the previous year. The study said that the increase in the GDP in 1988 compared to 1987 as a result of the local demand was KD 159 million. At the same time, the drop in GDP because of the export-impulse imbalance was KD 445 million, thus leaving the GDP in 1988 less by KD 286 million than that of 1987.

The imbalance in the exports-imports was due to a drop by 12 per cent in commodities and services exports and an increase of 5.4 per cent of their imports in 1988. The drop in exports is mainly attributed to a 17.5 per cent drop in oil exports in 1988.

Despite the drop in the GDP, the Gross National Product, (GNP) and the national income both increased by 2.6 and 2.9 per cent respectively during 1988 compared to 1987. The GNP and national income increased by 2.1

and 1.9 per cent in 1987 compared to the previous year. The study added that the GNP in 1988 was KD 7,549.4 million compared to KD 7,360.7 million in 1987. This is mainly attributed to the increase in the country's foreign investments. The income from foreign investments achieved a 31.5 per cent increase in 1988 compared to a drop of 32.1 per cent in 1987. As a result, the current balance of payments achieved a surplus of KD 1,315 million, representing 17.4 per cent of the GNP, compared to a surplus of KD 1,303 million in 1987. The study added that statistics show that the net capital formation (net investment returns) was up by 20 per cent in 1988, which represented the actual addition to the society's production capacity.

Concerning the various sectors contribution to the GDP, the study said that the main increase came from non-oil sector. It added that GDP generated from real estate and construction sector was up by 4 per cent each, while the trade sector was down by a meagre 0.2 per cent. The increase of the GDP in non-oil industries was 5 per cent. All local industries achieved an increase in its contribution to the GDP in 1988, the study asserted. The highest increase of 15.9 per cent was recorded in the paper products industry, followed by mineral industries with 4.2 per cent, timber industry 4.1 per cent.

The study added that the GDP generated from the financial establishments sector at current prices in 1988 was up by 1.4 per cent compared to an increase of 31 per cent in 1987.

Insurance sector remained unchanged during 1988, while the services sector was up by 12 per cent. The sector of transportation and storage achieved a 2.2 per cent increase to its GDP. The GDP generated from the public and personal services dropped by 1.7 per cent in 1988. The drop is attributed to the retreat in the services of defence, education, health, social and entertainment services.

Oman spends \$300m a year

Oil exploration

OPEC leaders to meet

MUSCAT, Oman, Aug 22 (AP): Oman will spend an estimated \$300 million a year on oil exploration, but a big discovery is improbable, the Petroleum Development Oman's in-house newspaper Al Fahal reported today.

"The fields are likely to get smaller. We may not find a bonanza," the paper quoted PDO managing director Mike Pink as saying. "We are becoming essentially a drilling company and for the foreseeable future something in the order of \$300 million will be spent on drilling each year — a very large amount of our capital expenditure," Pink said.

PDO presently operates 60 producing fields, he said. Pink added that the company has produced more than 2 million barrels and would notch the 3-billion mark in November. With effort, PDO could maintain its level of production until the end of the century, he said.

Oil is the backbone of the economy for the southern Gulf state, with output estimated at more than 500,000 barrels a day. Oman is not member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, but co-ordinates closely on production and pricing with the organisation.

One of the major challenges facing PDO is to increase Oman's oil reserve base, Pink said. "We don't want to go below the present level of reserves if we can avoid it," he said.

Current reserves are estimated at around 4.1 billion barrels. He said 15 of PDO's older fields contain about 80 per cent of its ultimately recoverable reserves.

Major investment in new fields in south Oman, where both the

BELGRADE, Aug 22 (Reuters): Leaders of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will hold a meeting in Belgrade in September to coincide with the summit of non-aligned countries. Tanjug News Agency said today.

It said the meeting would be hosted by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and would discuss greater co-operation between Mexico and Egypt, both important oil producers, and OPEC countries.

The summit, to be held from September 4 to 7, will be attended by leaders of 102 non-aligned countries.

Crude oil prices for the first time in a month rose over \$19 a barrel yesterday on the New York Mercantile Exchange, driven by technical trading and the belief world markets are absorbing OPEC overproduction without depressing prices.

On the Merc, the benchmark West Texas Intermediate US crude ended the day at \$19.08, up 28 cents, the first closing price above \$19 since the \$19.51 a barrel of July 21, the initial day of trading on September futures contracts.

Trading was light, with 69,984 contracts traded, compared with the Merc yearly average of about 90,000 WTI contracts.

Today is the last Merc trading day for September delivery contracts. October contracts, which become the "spot month" contracts tomorrow, ended Monday at \$18.64 a barrel, up 21 cents.

Volume "ran away at the end of the day on good technical buying," said Pete Simonelli of New York's Balfour MacLaine Futures Inc. with WTI closing near its \$19.10 high for the day. Simonelli said the WTI September price run-up was due partly to refiners needing crude delivered soon and today being the contract's last day of trading.

The Royal Dutch-Shell group of companies said yesterday its second-quarter net profit jumped 60 per cent, thanks to a continuing rise in crude oil prices and higher refining and petrochemical margins.

British Petroleum Co. PLC reported a 34 per cent gain for the same period, citing the same factors.

Royal Dutch-Shell, which is based in the Hague, the Netherlands, and in London, said its net profit for the three months came to £1.01 billion (\$1.65 billion) compared with £633 million (\$1.03 billion) in the same period a year ago.

India to host global marketing conference

NEW DELHI, Aug 22: India has won the bid to host the 17th International Marketing Congress (IMC) in 1990. The Institute of Marketing and Management (IMM) will organise the congress in January 1990 at New Delhi on the theme marketing opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region, reports an economic daily.

Over 35 national and international organisations have extended their co-operation to IMM for holding the congress. They include the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UN-ESCAP), Japan Marketing Association, University of Leeds, UK, Canadian Institute of Marketing, Australian Canadian School of Management, Marketing Institute of Singapore, Italian Association for Study of Marketing, American Management Association International Advertising Research Association, Hong Kong Institute of Marketing, Agra University, Jamia Millia Islamia and others.

Six Airbus for PIA

PAKISTAN International Airways (PIA) has signed a contract with Airbus Industrie for the purchase of three A310-300 plus three options, thereby implementing the first phase of its fleet modernising programme.

The A310-300 twin-aisle twins will replace the carrier's Boeing 707s now in use on its thinner medium-haul international routes.

The first three aircraft are due for delivery in 1991, and will seat 212 passengers in a two class layout. Engine selection is still to be made.

Airline chief

AMMAN, Aug 22 (Reuters): The Jordanian government named Husam Abu Ghazalah today as president and chief executive of Royal Jordanian Airlines, a company official said. Abu Ghazalah, 48, a former deputy Air Force commander, succeeds Ali Ghandour, who resigned as chairman and chief executive of the national carrier on Friday.

Exchange rates

Indian rupee	18.120
Sri Lankan rupee	8.940
Pakistani rupee	14.330
Bangladesh taka	9.190
US dollar	299.40
Pound sterling	473.25
Deutsche mark	153.35
UAE dirham	081.55
Japanese yen	002.06

Dollar sinks again

Gold strengthens

LONDON, Aug 22 (Reuters): The dollar dropped just before the end of European trading today as rumours swept markets that West Germany was poised to raise interest rates to bolster the mark, dealers said.

But economists in West Germany said they thought it unlikely that the Bundesbank, the country's Central Bank, would announce a rate hike at its central policy committee's meeting on Thursday.

"These rumours caught us by surprise. We are not expecting a rate rise from the Bundesbank," said Werner Bauer, chief dealer at Bank Bedemann.

"There is some interest rate tension in the market as the (West German) economy is doing well, but no reason to raise rates now."

The Bundesbank last raised its discount and emergency Lombard lending rates by half a percentage point to five and seven per cent respectively at the end of June.

The Bundesbank's committee meeting, normally held every two weeks, will be the first since it adjourned for a summer recess on July 27.

Since then the dollar has risen sharply from just over 1.86 marks to around 1.9515 on Monday.

It closed in London today at 1.9410. Against the Japanese yen it was little changed at 142.60 after 142.45.

Earlier the dollar had dipped briefly on further signs that the US economy was slowing down, dealers said.

A drop of 1.9 per cent in July orders for durable goods — expensive manufactured goods made to last at least three years — against a market consensus forecast of a 0.2-per-cent fall, followed a revised June rise of 1.4 per cent.

"When you put it in the context of the past several months it suggests the economy is still weakening," Cynthia Latta of Data Resources Inc said.

But economists pointed out that elements of the durable goods report — including large orders for aircraft in July — showed that the US economy was in little danger of sliding into recession.

Major European stock markets were little changed in thin trade.

Gold traded in London at a bid price of \$366.80 a troy ounce late today, up 30 cents from Monday's late price.

The bid price in Zurich was also \$366.40 an ounce, up from \$366.00 late Monday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold rose 1 cent to close at a bid \$366.90.

Durable goods down

WASHINGTON, Aug 22 (Reuters): US manufacturers reported a 1.9 per cent decline in orders for durable goods in July, the Commerce Department said today in a report that suggested slow growth ahead for the American economy.

The \$122.9 billion total of orders was the smallest since October, 1988, and reflected sharply lower defence orders. But the department raised June's figure to a 1.4 per cent increase in orders instead of the previously reported 0.4 per cent rise.

The July decline was worse than some analysts' forecasts and pushed down the dollar to 1.95 marks and 142.92 yen. But US bond prices were buoyed in the belief that weakness in the economy would keep interest rates from rising.

The most expensive manufactured items, durable goods range from automobiles to aircraft and are meant to last three years or more. The orders, which fell 4.5 per cent in May, are closely watched as an indicator of the economy's health.

Some of the sources of strength, such as demand for exports and investment by businesses in new production capacity, have shown signs of slackening, economists said.

"The report is consistent with our forecast that growth will continue to slow in the second half of the year," said Christopher Caton, director of forecasting for Data Resources Inc., in Lexington, Massachusetts.

The firm estimates gross national product, after adjusting for inflation, will advance in the second half of 1989 at only half the three-per-cent pace of the year's first half and says a recession is unlikely.

"We put the chances of a recession in the next 12 months at one out of three," Caton said.

The chances of a recession are sure to be debated by the Federal Reserve Board's Open-market Committee, which was scheduled to meet in closed session today to discuss policy.

The Fed eased its grip on credit earlier in the summer in the face of economic weakness, but despite pressure from the Bush administration is expected to be cautious about pushing rates lower because of inflation fears.

Leading the July durable goods decline was a sharp drop in orders for defence capital goods, which fell 14.7 per cent after rising 11.4 per cent in June. Recent strength in orders for military durable goods is expected to give way to cuts in the Pentagon budget as Congress and the White House struggle to make painful reductions in the deficit.

Excluding defence-related orders, durable goods fell 0.9 per cent in July following a 0.3 per cent rise in June.


Silver was quoted late in London at a bid price of \$5.24 a troy ounce, equaling Monday's rate.

In London, share prices remained mixed around the midpoint of the day's trading range in late business, despite renewed declines on the New York market after US data further reduced prospects of a near-term cut in interest rates.

The London market's lack of selling pressure, seen earlier in the face of Wall Street's near 41 point fall yesterday, continued to underpin prices, dealers said.

Wellcome was 28p higher at 756 as the market again considered likely profit growth due to its Retrovir drug. ICI added 35p to 1,322 on fundamental and speculative interest. At 1513 GMT and FTSE index was 1.4 points up at 2,376.1.

ICI's gain, on a turnover of 2.57 million shares which was higher than recent volume, partly reflected speculation that the company faces a break-up bid or



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Japanese investment in UK heading for a record

LONDON, Aug 22. Japanese direct investment in the UK is heading for a record this year and enquiries indicate that the trend will continue in 1990, a Japanese newspaper has said.

The announcement of five-year investment plans last month by Fujitsu Ltd and Toyota Motor Corp., worth a combined total of around ¥242 billion (£1.1 billion), has encouraged about 50 Japanese companies to ask for information about investing in the UK, say Department of Trade and Industry officials.

They estimate that the number of Japanese manufacturing companies in the UK increased to more than 100, with 25,000 employees, from around 40 two years ago. This impressive tally compares with about 420 Japanese plants throughout Europe.

The value of the investments, however, is relatively small compared to the huge flow of capital from the US and West Germany. And direct Japanese investment fell to a little over a third the year earlier level in 1988.

Total Japanese investment in the UK since 1972 is estimated at ¥330 billion (£1.5 billion). But in a breakdown of inward investment in the UK, Japanese-owned corporations only control 10 per cent of the projects compared with 43 per cent from North America and 45 per cent from Europe, mainly West Germany.

Nevertheless, money and capital will continue to flow, albeit unevenly, from Japan into the UK economy during the next few years.

Besides Fujitsu and Toyota, other Japanese companies planning to invest in the UK include: Nikken Kogaku Co., the engineering company; and Hitachi Ltd., which is teaming up with Cambridge University in a joint research project costing ¥110 million (£500,000).

"A barrier-free Europe in 1992 has of course accelerated the Japanese move into Britain," says Ian Blance, economist at the Japan External Trade Organisation.

Japanese corporations want to be close to a market containing 320 million

consumers, he says. They also need to be direct participants in Europe — just in case the community takes on a unified protectionist front against outsiders.

Moreover, investment in Europe and elsewhere has increased markedly, because of the strong yen.

Enquiries received by the UK authorities illustrate that Britain, already accounting for more than a quarter of Japanese manufacturing projects in Europe, will remain the most popular locality for new plants.

Whereas US businessmen and some congressmen have voiced fears about Japanese investment and competition in the US, there is little evidence of Japan paranoia in the UK.

"Both the Conservative government and Labour opposition have actively promoted direct foreign investment in the UK," says Andrew Golding who monitors Japan for the Invest in Britain Bureau, a unit of the Department of Trade and Industry.

Obvious attractions, he says, are language, political stability and an overt move by the government to deregulate bureaucracy and create a flourishing investment environment. Japanese companies are also more familiar with the UK legal system than West Germany.

Regional government offices in the UK have actively sought investment from abroad and have expanded their infrastructure, towns, schools and facilities. There are generous financial incentives, sometimes up to 30 per cent of project cost.

Japanese companies surveyed by the Invest in Britain Bureau say that labour relations are "excellent".

There is virtually a "strike-free record." Several say that the output of their UK factories compares favourably with that of their plants in Japan.

Corporations including Sony Corp., Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. and Nissan Motor Co. are making full use of local supplies to counter any European opposition to their increasing competi-

tion. Besides boosting employment, Japanese corporations are making high technology products, previously not manufactured in Britain. These will be a substitute for imports, says Golding. Companies introducing innovative technologies and production techniques will improve the UK's industrial base.

There are snags, however. At a recent conference, Karel Hube, vice-president of N.V. Philips, the Dutch electronics company, criticized the British government's policy of subsidising Japanese electronics companies.

Japanese companies should not be allowed unbridled market entry in Europe, he said, adding that Japan must open its own market to European-made electronic components and equipment.

The Policy Studies Institute, an independent British research organisation, found however that some Japanese manufacturers in the UK were discouraged by shoddy British components and a shortage of good suppliers.

Venezuela faces more austerity



President Pérez

CARACAS, Aug 22. (Reuters): Six months into office, President Carlos Andrés Pérez is sticking firmly to austerity policies which led to price riots in February, but Venezuela faces deepening recession, economists say.

"I think the (austerity) package is working but the impact this year will be deeply negative," Pedro Palma, an economist and consultant, told Reuters.

Pérez' policies of lifting state subsidies and freeing price controls to liberalise the economy provoked riots three weeks after he took office on February 2, and nearly 300 people were killed.

Inflation in the three months to July fell steadily as the measures began to work, economists said.

But consumer's purchasing power plunged, devouring profits in the main car assembly, textile and agriculture industries, they added. Only a government decree prohibiting mass firings has kept people at work.

Gross domestic product, a measure of a country's wealth, is expected to shrink in Venezuela this year after expanding by 5.7 per cent last year, economists said.

The days when many middle-class Venezuelans would regularly fly to Miami for weekend shopping trips are over. Many residents who were financially comfortable last year now say they fear they cannot keep up their mortgage payments.

"The government has yet to achieve a freeing of prices," said Domingo Felipe Maza Zabala, an economics professor at Caracas's Central University.

Despite initial measures in February that raised petrol and transport prices, the government still controls prices of many essential goods with subsidies, economists said.

It will have to impose further price increases on the 18 million population at the risk of provoking another burst of riots, they added.

KD deposit rates firm

KUWAIT, Aug 22. (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates firmed in the short days today on expectations of a high yield on Wednesday's 150 million dinar (\$510 million) treasury bill offering, dealers said.

Tomorrow's next rose one point from Monday to 8-1/2 7-1/2 per cent, while spot-negotiated firmed 1/2 point to the same level.

However, one month eased around 1/8 point to 8-1/2 1/4. Other fixed rates were steady at 8-5/8 3/8. Market activity was moderate, dealers said.

The Central Bank adjusted its dinar to dollar exchange rate to 0.2985/69 from 0.2991/3 on Monday.

Meanwhile Saudi rial inter-bank deposits eased in a liquid market today, with business focussing on short-dated funds as operators lent excess riyals.

"People are lending their excess cash in short-dated funds or buying dollars," one dealer said.

The spot rial eased to 3.7507/10 to the dollar from 3.7504/07 on Monday in response to the dollar-buying.

Wide scope for barter operations

Moscow, Jordan to stimulate trade ties

MOSCOW, Aug 22. (KUNA): Goods turnover between the Soviet Union and Jordan is to grow five-fold in the coming years as compared with the present level and will run at up to 50 million roubles, the official Tass news agency said today.

An agreement to this effect was reached recently during the first session of the inter-governmental commission for trade, economic, scientific and technical co-operation. The trade increase will be resultant of a wide scope for barter operations and the development of other forms of economic co-operation.

With a view to stimulating commercial relations, Jordanian and Soviet business circles are now working out specific

measures to this effect, according to the USSR Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations, Tass said.

The Jordanian side has given the Soviet side a list of priority commodities which it would like to receive from the Soviet Union. The list includes in particular lumber, metallurgical products, fertilizers, machinery and equipment.

Soviet representatives, while discussing such form of bilateral business contacts as barter trade, pointed out the Soviet Union's interest in receiving textiles, disposable syringes and other medico-pharmaceutical products and detergents from Jordanian state-run organisations and private firms.

The two sides are also discussing prospects for the development of joint enterprise. Specifically, they consider projects to draw Soviet organisations into the production of phosphates and lumber in Jordan and possibilities for Jordanian firms' participation in the production of goods in the Soviet Union.

On joint implementation of economic projects, the agency said new fields have been mapped out in this respect. Soviet organisations will be possibly invited to establish a united power grid of Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and Turkey, and specifically to build Jordan-Egypt power transmission lines. Of course, the two sides' resources for mutual financial settlements within the framework of business co-operation will also be taken into account during the expansion of business contacts.

Good prospects are being opened up by a plan which is being considered by the two sides to repay debts through both reciprocal deliveries and through economic projects in Jordan and the Soviet Union.

On the whole, the opinion of Soviet business circles is that prospects for the expansion of deepening of Soviet-Jordanian economic contacts are quite realistic, the more so as the goodwill of the sides is manifest, Tass concluded.

Economy will continue to expand

Japan to sustain growth over the next several years

TOKYO, Aug 22. (UPI): Japan's economy will continue to expand under the lead of strong domestic demand and overheating of the economy is unlikely, the Bank of Japan predicted today.

The Central Bank, in its monthly report, said all indications showed that Japan will sustain economic growth over the next several years.

It said inflationary fears have gradually subsided in recent months in view of relatively stable price situation.

It said the nation's industrial production has expanded steadily and a tightening of the supply-demand balance in the labour market is continuing.

"The growth rate in unit labour costs still appears to be within a stable range despite a tightening labour market," a Central Bank official said.

The official said a hike in the official discount rate May 31 contributed to reducing inflationary fears and putting brakes on growth of money sup-

ply. The Central Bank raised the key interest rate it charges on loans to commercial institutions by 0.75 points to 3.25 per cent in a move to forestall inflationary pressure.

The report said corporate fixed investment, in both manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors, has shown a dramatic growth while housing investment remains brisk and the value of public works contracts posted a high level far exceeding that in the previous year.

Meanwhile, Toshiba Corp. denied local news reports today that it has asked Samsung Electronics Co. of South Korea to totally takeover production of its US-bound low-priced video tape recorders.

The reports in the leading economic journal Nihon Keizai Shimbun and Kyodo News Service said Toshiba will halt production of such products at its Tennessee plant.

"We don't know where these

reports have come from," said a spokesman for the Tokyo-based electronic firm. "It is true that Samsung Electronics has been manufacturing part of our low-end type VTRs sold in the United States since some time ago."

Nihon Keizai said Toshiba's Tennessee factory will concentrate on production of TV sets. Nihon Keizai and Kyodo said Samsung will manufacture the Monaural two-head type stereo VTRs which will sell for \$299 in the United States.

Toshiba sells about 1 million VTRs in the United States annually, of which about 60 per cent are Monaural type machines, Nihon Keizai said.

Toshiba has been supplying technology to Samsung for production of electronic ovens and air conditioners since 1983.

Pokka Corp., a Japanese citrus juice maker, said today it has purchased the mecca east range in Coachella valley in the suburbs of Los Angeles, Califor-

nia, for about 200 million yen (\$1.4 million).

The company said the acquisition is aimed at preparing for Japan's phased liberation of citrus juice imports toward April 1992.

The company said lemons and oranges produced at the 789,000 square yard (660,000 square metre) ranch will be processed into juice at a factory owned by the ranch.

Arabian Oil Co., Japan's biggest oil producer with concessions in the Middle East and China, said today its net income for the half-year ended June 30 soared 52.4 per cent over a year ago to 1.446 billion yen (\$8.1 million) on sales of 93.873 billion yen (\$661.1 million), up 63.3 per cent.

The Tokyo-based company said pre-tax profits more than doubled to 28.254 billion yen (\$199 million) from 13.593 billion yen (\$95.7 million) a year ago.

Crude industry bickers

OPA-LOCKA, Florida, Aug 22. (AP): US Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Paul Yost has agreed to support a proposed ten-mile (16-kilometre) tanker-free zone off Florida's coast, but the plan quickly drew criticism from the oil industry.

Gov. Bob Martinez won Yost's backing for his plan to shift major shipping lanes to 10 nautical miles (18.5 kilometres) from the coastal reefs after the two officials flew down the coast to the Florida Keys yesterday.

"All we can do to prevent a catastrophe in Florida needs to be done," Martinez said. "Establishing a tanker-free zone would create a buffer between Florida's coast and tanker traffic, which would provide additional response time to deal with any oil spills."

Yost said the Coast Guard would seek US and international backing for the plan, and agreed to study Coast Guard participation in a major oil-spill drill with Florida authorities within the next 12 months.

Yost said the Coast Guard would seek US and international backing for the plan, and agreed to study coast guard participation in a major oil-spill drill with Florida authorities within the next 12 months.

But Ken Leonard, transportation director for the American Petroleum Institute, said the plan has "significant problems that need to be worked out" and would require lengthy international negotiations.

Leonard also said the proposal could make shipping more dangerous by forcing southbound tankers into the lane normally used by northbound tankers.

Shipping lanes currently pass as close as two miles (3.2 kilometres) from shore at some points along Florida's coast, though both Martinez and Yost noted that most fully laden tankers heading north normally take advantage of strong Gulf stream currents farther out to sea.

More than 5,000 ships pass in and out of the Gulf of Mexico through the Florida Straits each year, carrying "tens of billions" of gallons (litres) of petroleum products, the governor's office said.

Saudis, Egypt open talks

Plan to expand economic ties

RIYADH, Aug 22. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia and Egypt opened talks in Riyadh today to develop economic ties that could include building a road bridge between them.

Sources close to the two-day talks said discussions would cover investments through existing joint ventures in industry, construction and road and sea transport.

Mohammed Maamoun Kurdi, acting foreign under-secretary for economic and cultural affairs, said in an opening address that the meeting was "an historic opportunity representing a new phase in co-operation," the sources said.

Egyptian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Sami Heiba was quoted in press reports as saying on arrival yesterday for the talks that a proposal to build a bridge between Saudi Arabia and Egypt would be discussed.

He said several studies for a bridge had been made but gave no details. The two countries are about 10 km (six miles) apart at their closest, across the Gulf of Aqaba.

Heiba said the talks would also cover exploitation of natural resources in the Red Sea and encouragement of private sector joint ventures.

He said a proposal to abolish customs duties and taxes on food and agricultural products might also be discussed.

World Bank cuts off loans to Kabul

WASHINGTON, Aug 22. (AP): World Bank loans to Afghanistan have been cut off because the government has paid nothing on its old debts for six months, bank spokesman Peter Riddleberger said yesterday.

He said the action taken by the bank's staff was reported last week to the board of executive directors. The board's 22 members represent the countries that own the bank.

Afghanistan's communist government, with help from the Soviet Union, is battling a strong guerrilla movement aided by the United States.

It has fallen behind in its payments on \$79.2 million of old debts to the bank. The bank's rules require the cutoff when the arrears pile up for six months.

As one of the world's poorest countries, Afghanistan borrowed from the World Bank group's International Development Association (IDA).

The loans were made at less than 1 per cent interest a year, with as long as 50 years to repay. Money for such loans comes from direct contributions by more than 30 donor countries, with the largest contribution made by the United States.

Afghanistan is the first country to be cut off from this fund.

The World Bank group, the largest source of aid loans to the Third World, lends larger amounts to somewhat more prosperous countries through its International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

The IBRD is owned by 151 countries, including borrowers. The United States holds the largest block of shares.

This money comes largely from the proceeds of bonds that the bank has floated on world markets, and which it lends out again at rates closer to those required by commercial banks.

Many borrowing countries cannot get loans from commercial banks, however, and the IBRD gives borrowers much longer periods to repay than such banks will accept.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Aug 22. (Reuters): The share market recovered from a weak start triggered by Wall Street's bearish performance to finish stronger in active trade. The All Ordinaries index rose 2.1 to close at 1,724.6.

TOKYO: Share prices closed mixed in thin trading above early lows. Buyers rotated through jagged shares with good earnings outlooks and low price earnings ratios. The Nikkei index eased 26.48 points to close at 35,114.35.

HONG KONG: Hong Kong stocks firmed at the end of trade on technical buying. The Hang Seng index rose 14.81 to 2,543.56 on low turnover.

SINGAPORE: A nervous sell-off followed Wall Street's fall. The Straits Times index closed at 1,370.86, down 16.15 points from Monday's post-crash best.

BOMBAY: Heavy buying by state-owned trusts helped shares recover from an early fall. Tata

Steel firmed 1.25 rupees to 1,213.75.

FRANKFURT: The DAX index lost 2.39 points to 1600.2 but recovered lows brought on by profit-taking. "The market is very resistant," a dealer said.

ZURICH: Swiss shares shrugged off Wall Street's 41 point fall. The All-Share performance index gained 2.8 to 1,208.

PARIS: Insurer group Victoire, the target of a hostile bid by Suez, opened at 2,030 francs after being suspended at 1,035 francs on Aug 4. It slipped back to 1,950 and the 50-share indicator closed 0.62 per cent down.

LONDON: Lack of selling pressure kept share prices mixed in spite of Wall Street falls. At 1604 GMT the FTSE index was 3.9 lower at 2370.8.

NEW YORK: Investors continued to fret that interest rates are not heading lower. At 1706 GMT the Dow Jones industrials were down 15.74 points to 2631.26.

Investigation of De Beers

Monopolies probe ruled out

LONDON, Aug 22. (Reuters): British authorities said yesterday they had decided against starting a monopolies probe into the extensive London sales operations of diamond giant De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd of South Africa.

De Beers markets up to 80 per cent of world rough diamond output through its London-based Central Selling Organisation (CSO), the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) said.

"While there are aspects of the CSO which function like a monopoly...any ill-effects which might flow from the operation of that monopoly will be negligible as far as the United Kingdom is concerned," OFT director-general Sir Gordon Borrie said in a statement.

He said the OFT, which has been reviewing sales since February, did not plan to pursue any investigation of De Beers.

Some 40 per cent of the diamonds marketed by the CSO are produced by De Beers' own mines in South Africa while the rest represent the output of many other producers such as the Soviet Union, Australia and Zaire.

The diamonds are sold under tightly controlled arrangements which limit the number of purchasers able to buy direct from the CSO, Borrie said.

Wang expands credit line

LOWELL, Massachusetts, Aug 22. (UPI): Struggling Wang Laboratories Inc. today said it has renewed and expanded its defaulted credit line with bank lenders and pledged all company assets except inventory to back the previously unsecured debt.

The company said the agreement was reached yesterday in the early morning hours after long weekend negotiations. It also allows Wang to release collateral from its obligation to the eight-bank lending group to raise as much as an additional \$175 million in working capital.

"With the conclusion of this agreement, the company will today make all payments required to become current on its debt obligations," a company statement promised. Last week Wang was declared in default on its \$300 million credit line because its net worth fell below a level previously agreed on with recent losses and write-offs.

The new agreement gives Wang \$575 million in short-term credit, \$100 million more than it had before it defaulted last week. However, the deal also

sets a repayment schedule to \$275 million over the next 16 months, said Paul Henning, a company spokesman.

Wang previously had \$300 million in revolving credit agreement, of which it had tapped about \$240 million, plus another \$175 million of similar financing for its leading and credit subsidiary, Henning said.

The company's total debt, long- and short-term, amounts to \$991 million, Henning said.

An Wang, the founder and chairman of the company, said in a statement, "the company believes that this debt restructuring, together with the completion of the \$175 million of additional secured finances, will provide the company with the financing required to meet its business plan."

Henning said, "There are a lot of things that have to be done in this fiscal year in terms of selling assets and in terms of improving the revenues and profitability strength" of the company.

Growth signs may slow Fed's move to lower interest rates

WASHINGTON, Aug 22. (AP): Recent signs of resurgent US economic growth probably will cause Federal Reserve policymakers, meeting privately this week, to pause in their summertime push toward lower interest rates, economists said today.

"I don't think they're going to do much of anything right now," said economist Bruce Steinberg of Merrill Lynch capital markets. "They can say their policies are working pretty much as desired. The economy is still moving up and the inflation numbers have been fairly good."

The Central Bank, which attempts to regulate the US economy by manipulating interest rates, has been engaged in a delicate balancing act over the past 18 months.

From March 1988 to March 1989, the

Fed pushed short-term interest rates up by 3 percentage points in an effort to curb the economy and being inflationary pressures under control.

It paused for several months and then in early June, as signs of sluggish growth emerged, reversed course and began to push rates lower in an attempt to stimulate the economy and avoid what would be the first recession since 1982.

In three steps, the Central Bank nudged the federal funds rate — the rate banks charge each other for overnight loans — from 0.75 per cent to 9 per cent. That has since rippled through to other rates, including mortgage rates and the prime rate charged banks' best commercial customers.

Now, as economic reports come in for July, it appears the Fed has exactly what it

wants. The most recent data suggests the economy has recovered a bit from sluggishness in the April-June quarter.

The Fed's index of industrial production rose in July after falling the two previous months. And, in a sign that the recent drop in interest rates was working, new home construction rebounded in June and July from four consecutive monthly declines.

Meanwhile, inflation, which from January through May soared at the worst rate in seven years, fell back. The consumer price index pushed up at an average of 0.5 per cent to 0.6 per cent higher each month for the first five months of the year, but then subsided to back-to-back 0.2 per cent gains in June and July.

Economists believe the Fed is unlikely to make its next move on interest rates —

higher or lower — until it gets new evidence of further softness in economic growth or another spurt of inflation.

The Federal Open Market Committee, which sets monetary policy, is scheduled to meet behind closed doors today to determine policy through early October.

There has been increased pressure on the Central Bank to resume pushing interest rates lower. President George Bush last week endorsed comments by his budget director, Richard Darman, who said it will be the Fed's fault if the economy falls into a recession.

The Fed believes economic growth of about 2 per cent a year is sustainable without fuelling inflation, but the Bush administration is looking for growth closer to 3 per cent this year to help it reduce the federal budget deficit.

OUTLOOK

The unholiday holiday

By Kathy Cuddihy

WE have recently returned from our summer holiday. What a relief. "Holiday" certainly has to be a misnomer for what I've been through for the past three months.

My husband, on the other hand, is in great shape. He looks fit, well rested and relaxed. That's because he spent most of his time here. When he did take his vacation, he timed it nicely to coincide with the summer's best weather and after I had whipped the garden into shape and done all the other "nonsense" jobs.

Our so-called holiday also seems to have had an effect on our son, a fact which became glaringly obvious when we arrived at our compound and the security guard saluted us. "I've mislaid my key," my husband announced to the guard. "I wonder if you would mind sending someone to open our door for us?"

Right away, sir," came the respectful reply.

"Boy, it's a great to be home," breathed young Kieran. "I love this compound."

"Why, Kieran?" I asked in mild surprise.

"Because here there are people to do things for you," he replied with feeling.

Amen to that. Goodness

knows, I could have done with a few willing workers this summer. People who didn't suddenly become "busy" whenever chores needed doing. People who actually volunteered to help before chores needed doing. Yes, Kieran had a valid point, but I should have been the one making the observation. He only thinks he was condemned to slave labour for three months. I know that's what I've been through.

Between visitors, labourers and the regular confusion of everyday life, I guess we all had a pretty hectic time.

Enough people stayed with us this summer to make the tax authorities suspicious that we had a small business in operation. Most of the visitors were good company. Others weren't quite so successful.

Now that I've had some time to recover, I can look back on all our visitors with more tolerance. Even Tommy, a cute little two-year-old who vigorously threw up all over the back seat of my brand new car. I didn't like the upholstery anyway. I can even excuse the aristocratic Grande Dame who thought her free stay should include room service and a daily change of linens. Maybe she got this idea because I put hotel soap, bubble bath and shampoo in her bathroom.

Not enough time has passed, however, for me to forgive the young guest who forgot her toothbrush and quietly used whichever one was at hand... a discovery we made on her last day.

Between the influx of expected and unexpected guests, I had to cope with teams of builders who were renovating an old house I had bought. That phase of the summer was a whirl of activity that I remember best as clouds of dust, the buzz of saws, the slapping of plaster onto walls, and the smell of varnish and newly-laid carpet. The whole harried experience made me more absent-minded than usual.

"It must be Tuesday because the plumber is here," I muttered to myself one day.

"No, Mom," answered my child with the selectively acute hearing. "It's Thursday. I forgot to tell you that the plumber phoned to say he couldn't come on Tuesday."

"Then where was the electrician yesterday? And where are the painters today?" I asked in complete bewilderment.

Things weren't a whole lot better when the builders cleared out and the stream of visitors occasionally trickled to a standstill. Nothing ever went right for too long, and life always

presented a few hiccups.

"Mom, I can't watch TV," my son complained one afternoon.

"That goes without saying. I've told you before, you can't watch TV before 6:00 pm."

"I don't mean I'm not supposed to watch it; I mean I'm unable to watch it," he clarified with only a hint of impatience.

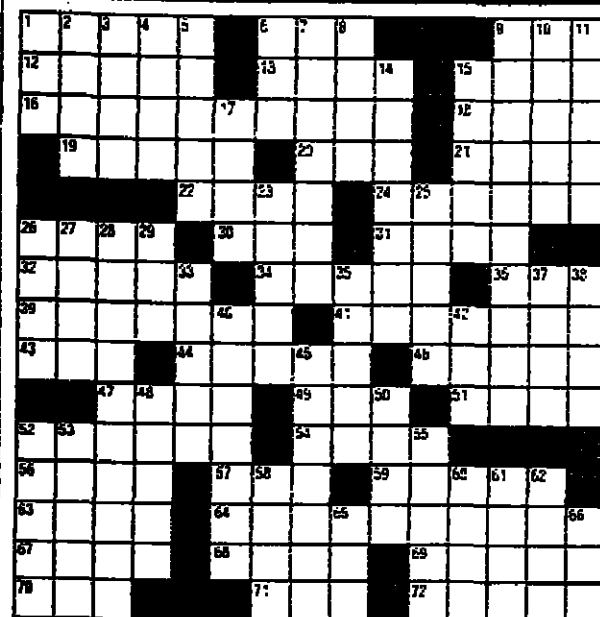
"There's no electricity." "Good grief, there has to be electricity. The Henderson brood arrives tonight."

"I hate to say this, Mom, but wishing won't make it happen. And don't suggest that I call the electricity people. The telephone is out of order. Dad says the telephone doesn't work on electricity but this happens too many times for coincidence. I think the telephone company is in cahoots with the electricity gang."

Good point. By the end of the summer I strongly suspected that all repair people were in cahoots because no one felt inspired to hurry out to our house.

Kieran had another good point, when he said it was great to be home. In fact, as I look around at the legions of houseboys, gardeners and maintenance men, I could kiss the ground in thanksgiving. Maybe next summer I'll take my holiday in the compound.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Squarely
 - 6 Kind of soup
 - 9 Faint sound
 - 12 Trader, formerly
 - 13 Church area
 - 15 Kibbutz dance
 - 16 Prudish expression
 - 18 Type of power
 - 19 Taxi ticker
 - 20 Ind.'s time zone
 - 21 Tear down, in Britain
 - 22 Forbidden
 - 24 Bunny or bonnet
 - 26 Wool nibbler
 - 30 Prevent
 - 31 Repeat
 - 32 Distant
 - 34 Historic city in Alabama
 - 36 Period
 - 38 Crown maker
 - 41 Examiner
 - 43 Scrambled item
 - 44 Hallow
 - 46 Occurrence
 - 47 Eye part
 - 49 Balaam's mount
 - 51 Town near Padua
 - 52 Asparagus servings
 - 54 Fork or file
 - 56 Small cabins
 - 57 — polio
 - 59 Kind of thread
 - 63 "It's a sin to tell —"
- DOWN**
- 1 Zool.
 - 2 classifications
 - 3 Patronage
 - 4 River at Leeds
 - 5 Robin's home
 - 6 Hat
 - 7 Connoisseur of a sort
 - 8 Snakes
 - 9 Ichthyo features
 - 10 Came up
 - 11 More domesticated
 - 14 Values highly
 - 15 Severe
 - 17 Bleak
 - 23 Steth loosely
 - 25 — in point (example)
 - 26 Constructed
 - 27 Cassini
 - 28 Too shy for words
 - 29 Overheated
 - 33 Cotton or linen, e.g.
 - 35 Rope
 - 37 Lease
- 64 Stalk units**
- 67 Employers**
- 68 Three, in Trer**
- 69 Item under discussion**
- 70 Actor Beatty**
- 71 Speedster of the skies**
- 72 Office VIP**
- 38 Comic Johnson**
- 40 Cut costs**
- 42 5th or Mad.**
- 45 Lampooners' products**
- 48 Places for posies**
- 50 Chorister's goal**
- 52 One of the Cassidys**
- 53 Beat**
- 55 Elevators, in London**
- 58 Flowers**
- 60 Glaswegian**
- 61 Graceful pace**
- 62 Ireland**
- 65 Pose**
- 66 Sgt. or cpl.**

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

DIGGING ONE'S OWN GRAVE

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
 ♠ 9 7 6
 ♥ A K Q 10
 ♦ A K
 ♣ Q J 6 3

WEST
 ♠ A K 8 3 2
 ♥ 7 5 2
 ♦ Q 10
 ♣ K 10 2

EAST
 ♠ 5 4
 ♥ 8 6 3
 ♦ J 9 7 5 2
 ♣ 8 7 4

SOUTH
 ♠ Q J 10
 ♥ J 9 4
 ♦ 8 6 4 3
 ♣ A 9 5

The bidding:
 West 1♠ North 1♥ East 1NT South 1NT
 West 3NT East 3NT South 3NT
 Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠

The Sea Bees might take a while to work miracles. Bridge players have to rely on their wits. A one no trump response to a takeout double is forward-going—it normally promises some 8-10 points—but after a spade opening bid the doubler should always allow for the preemptive value of the opening bid and realize that the response might have been made under pressure. In any event, South had the allowable minimum and North was full value for his jump to game. West led a spade, won by declar-

er. That gave declarer eight running tricks, and there was no question the ninth would have to come from the club suit. That might have been enough to make most declarers take the club finesse, but that would have been a futile exercise.

For his opening bid, West had to have the king of clubs, and to pursue a course that is bound to lose is the height of folly. Instead, declarer opted to hope for a favorable lie of the cards.

She cashed four hearts and two diamonds, then gave West the lead with a spade. West cashed his four tricks in the suit, but then was down to the K 10 of clubs. His forced club return allowed declarer to score two tricks in the suit for her contract.

On some hands, counting the distribution reveals the winning line. Here, counting the points was the key to success. Since the club finesse could not win, playing for a favorable distribution was the only alternative, and any chance is better than none at all!



"Since when have you been polishing the ball on your collar?"



"There goes my life support system!"

How far would you go?

Are you the joker in your pack, a real daredevil with a sense of adventure? Or do you always play safe? Do our quiz and find out

By Lisa Stacey

ARE you the type who would do anything for a laugh, no matter how daring? Or are you so careful, you are boring?

Think back to your childhood—were you the one who would always take up the dare, be cheeky to your teachers or stay out too late?

Or were you the perfect little child, who never put a foot out of place and didn't have any accidents?

Often our true nature goes right back to our days at school, but to find out whether you are a daredevil and just how far you would go—do our revealing quiz.

1. A friend arranges a blind date for you, but you suspect that she might be playing a trick. Do you:

a. Accept, it will be a giggle?
 b. Refuse, you wouldn't go on a blind date anyway?

c. Say that you will go, but only if she goes too?
 d. Say that you will go, but back out at the last minute?

e. Agree to go, but take a sneaky look at him before you actually turn up?

2. You've fallen madly in love with a hunk in the office next to you. What do you do about it?

a. Follow him around, without him knowing and arrange to bump into him in the wine bar?

b. Do nothing, he wouldn't fancy you anyway?

c. Ask him for a date?

d. Ask his friend to arrange a date for you and him?

e. Follow him around and smile a lot?

3. When you are attached to someone, but the most gorgeous man you have ever seen asks you out. What do you do?

a. Tell him that you already have a boyfriend, but you wouldn't mind a friendly chat?

b. Go—what have you got to lose?

c. Go along, but only for a drink and explain later that you are attached?

d. Be ready for anything, who knows how the evening will develop?

e. Refuse—you already have a boyfriend?

4. Get someone else to drive you, so they take the chance?

a. Stay the night at her home, you don't like taking risks?

b. It's late and you've had a heavy night, when a friend offers you the loan of her car. But you know that you won't be insured to drive it, what do you do?

a. Ask her to drive you home instead?

b. Jump in the car and go?

c. Take the train instead, you wouldn't dream of driving without insurance?

d. Get someone else to drive you, so they take the chance?

e. Stay the night at her home, you don't like taking risks?

5. How many of the following have you done: driven a car without tax, driven without insurance, driven while you are drunk, driven without an MOT on the car, driven a car that you know is stolen?

a. All of them, it was a giggle?

b. Most of them, but not through choice?

c. One or two, but you wouldn't do it anymore?

d. None.

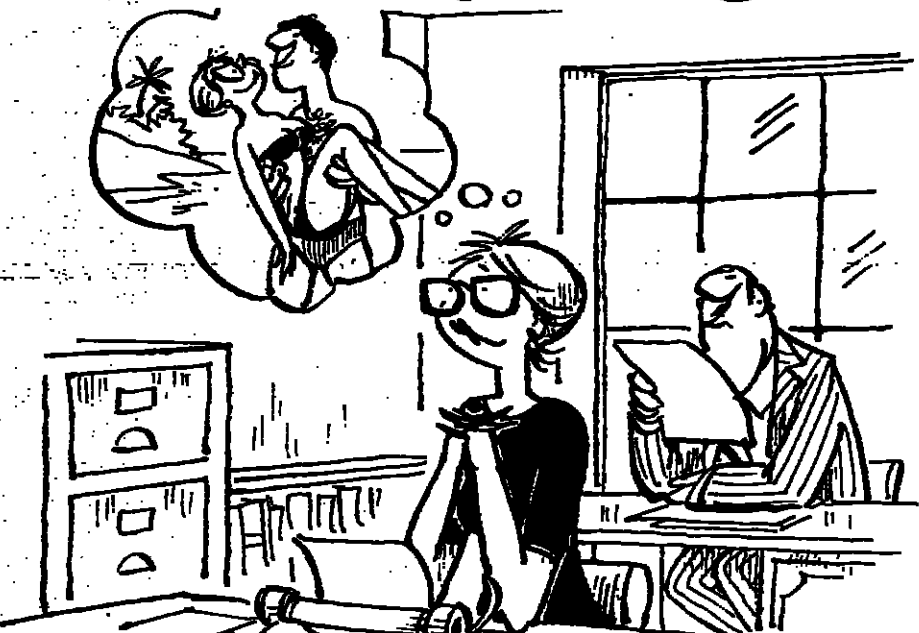
6. You meet a stranger and get chatting. During the conversation he says that a friend has let him down and asks you to go on a holiday of a lifetime with him, totally free. Do you:

a. Explain that you wouldn't dream of going away with a stranger?

b. Say that you will think about the offer and check him out?

c. Jump at the chance—what a great adventure?

d. Get to know him better, before you make a



decision?

e. Dream about it, but refuse—it's just too much of a risk?

7. A friend of yours offers you some expensive perfume, rather cheap. You know it has been stolen, what do you do?

a. Tell the police, you hate thieves?

b. Buy as much as you can and try and sell it to other friends?

c. Buy a bottle for yourself?

d. Say thank you, but no thank you—you don't like the idea of handling stolen goods?

e. You don't have friends like that?

8. You have worked for a secure company for years and paid into a pension scheme. Then you are offered an exciting new opportunity, with a fast growing company. But there are risks, do you:

a. Ask your present boss for advice, hoping that he will give you a rise?

b. Stay where you are, you are happy?

c. Take the new job and hope for the best?

d. Take the new job without thinking, you were bored with the old one anyway?

e. Talk over the opportunity with a close friend?

9. You are at the races for the day, how are you likely to bet?

a. Nothing, you don't believe in gambling?

b. Put all your money on a longshot and hope to win a fortune?

c. Gamble a small amount for fun, but only on the favourites?

d. Ask someone who knows about these things for advice?

e. Blow all your money and borrow if you can?

10. Your boyfriend asks you to give up everything, sell all your own and travel around Europe with him. What do you do?

a. Jump at the chance, you have been trying to make him do something like this for years?

b. Go, but put your foot down at selling up—you need something to come home to?

c. Refuse, but say that if he goes you will take a holiday to come and visit him?

d. He wouldn't ever suggest such a thing, he's just too sensible?

e. Discuss the matter and plan to get jobs as you travel through the countries?

11. You are asked to try a parachute jump, or some dangerous sport. Do you:

a. Have a go, you'll try anything?

b. Take proper training, then try it?

c. Refuse, you don't like dangerous sports?

d. Throw yourself into it, in a reckless way?

e. Go and watch them, before you decide?

12. A friend is going to gate-crash a party and asks you to come too. What do you do:

a. Say that you will go, but only if you can go with someone who has been invited?

b. Say that you will go, but only if you can go with someone who has been invited?

c. Say that you will go, but only if you can go with someone who has been invited?

d. Say that you will go, but only if you can go with someone who has been invited?

e. Say that you will go, but only if you can go with someone who has been invited?



"She was very destructive as a puppy, but that's all behind her now."

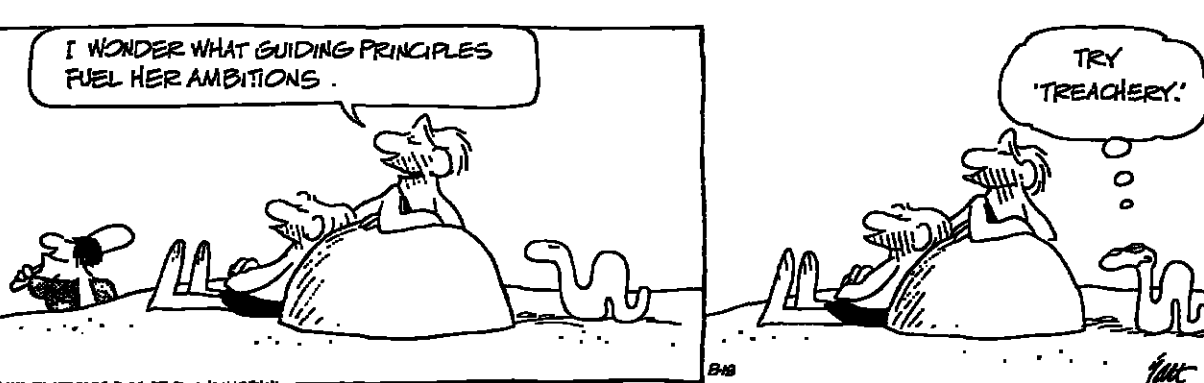
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Not everything will be to your liking but you will know how to make the most of things. You should not allow yourself to get into set habits, never mind how old you are. Make sure you obey the rules. Be respectful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

If you expect too much you will be that much more disappointed. Try to avoid occupying yourself with useless things. Do not be too hard on an old friend of yours. Be reliable.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be able to make more rapid progress, particularly with an idea of yours. Do not take too long about replying to a letter even if something a little unpleasant will have to be said. Keep your wits very much about you. Be hopeful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be exposed to some rather glib sales talk and must beware. Your lucky numbers are 5 and 37. Do not expect others always to have your interest top-most in their minds. Remember that those little expenses all mount up. Be gentle.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

Do not try to do more than one thing at a time. If you do things too fast you may well have to do them again. Make sure you do not say anything you do not really believe to be true. Be generous.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

Make sure your partner does not feel aggrieved. Avoid doing anything that is almost bound to give offence. Make sure you do not do anything that would injure your health. Be less selfish.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be able to make a few changes for the better. You must try not to allow your prejudices to stand in the way of a proper assessment of the situation. And do your best not to lose your temper. Be moderate.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will get rather exasperated because you still have not mastered a new technique. However if you persevere you soon will. If you have done your best that is all anyone can expect from you. Be tactful.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Try not to be too self-conscious about what you are doing—if you are you will only make matters worse. Stick to what is strictly practical, this is no time for dreaming or even for experimenting. Do not think you are the only one with good ideas. Be accurate.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Others may be somewhat jealous of you and should do your best to still their fears of you. You should make sure you do not eat more than you need or less than you should. Do not abandon your principals but do not hesitate to change your mind where indicated.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should concentrate on doing what has to be done and not waste time on trivialities. You will not be quite sure of your facts and should check on them. Avoid exceeding any speed limits and do not do anything too adventurous. Be considerate.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Now is a good time to make a decision you have been putting off. Do not expect others to do more for you than they have in the past. Avoid being quite so conceited. Be less susceptible.

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KUWAIT City, Sharq behind the Firdous Cinema, Villa No. 142. One room for a family or 2 working girls. Contact Salom Goraya, Tel. 2404285. (AT5-48932-3)

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SPORTS

Rosario-Suarez title fight postponed

NEW YORK, Aug. 22. (UPI) Edwin Rosario pulled out of Sunday's scheduled World Boxing Association lightweight title defense against Luis Suarez because of a hand injury, it was announced yesterday.

Rosario suffered a ligament tear in the knuckle on his right index finger Friday while sparring in Catskill, New York.

promoter Bobby Goodman said.

Goodman said the fight may be rescheduled for December.

The Rosario-Suarez bout will be replaced by a welterweight fight between former junior welterweight champion Buddy McGirt and Gary Jacobs at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum.

"It's really devastating to Rosario,"

Goodman said. "He was trying to prepare for other fights he hoped to get in later this year."

McGirt, 25, held the International Boxing Federation junior welterweight title from February 1988 to September of that year. He moved up to welterweight earlier this year and is ranked No. 2 by the IBF. McGirt's record is 43-2-1 with 35 knock-

outs.

Jacobs of Scotland holds the British Commonwealth 147-pound title. Jacobs, a 23-year-old southpaw, is 25-1 with 11 knockouts. He was training to fight Tyrone Moore Thursday night at the Felt Forum.

"This is good for me," said Jacobs, who is looking to crack the top 10 ratings.

Ryan nears 'strikeout 5,000'

Darling sends back 10 batters

DALLAS, Texas, Aug. 22. (Agencies) Nolan Ryan is fast approaching another historic milestone in an illustrious pitching career that has spanned three decades.

When the Texas Rangers superstar stepped up to the mound at Arlington Stadium against the Oakland Athletics this evening, he was six strikeouts shy of an amazing career total of 5,000.

Steve Carlton, the second all-time strikeout leader, who was neck and neck with Ryan in the mid-1980s, retired with 4,136 strikeouts. The closest active pitcher to the 42-year-old living legend of the game is Bert Blyleven of the California Angels, who has struck out 3,431 batters.

Ryan, a shoe-in for a place in the Baseball Hall of Fame, has retired, holds 41 Major League records, including five no-hitters.

He has taken no-hitters into the eighth and ninth innings this year before being thwarted and although he would like to have added to that record, Ryan said: "Right now the only number that means anything to me is 5,000."

Ryan, whose fastball has often been clocked at over 100 mph (161 km/h), began his career with

the New York Mets in 1966 and had pitched for the California Angels and the Houston Astros before joining the Texas Rangers this season, where he has helped fill the stadium in Arlington.

"His presence on the mound adds 6,000 fans to the gate, according to the Rangers' ticket manager John Schriever."

"There's been an increase in season ticket sales too, which may be attributed to Ryan," Schriever said.

Ryan, who is on course to leading the American League in strikeouts for the 11th time, has some advice for any young player who may have his sights on the 5,000 mark.

"After you get to 3,000 is when it gets tough," he said. "You have to stay healthy, have to pitch a lot of innings, a lot of years and maintain your stuff. That's the toughest part maintain your stuff."

Meanwhile, Ron Darling struck out a season-high 10 batters in his fourth straight victory as the New York Mets won for the 11th time in 14 games, 4-1 last night over the San Francisco Giants.

The loss cut the Giants' lead over the Houston Astros to 1 and 1-2 games in the National League West. San Francisco's only run



Ron Darling

came on Pat Sheridan's homer in the eighth inning.

Darling, 12-9, pitched 8 1-3 innings, allowing seven hits. He has permitted only five earned runs in his last 33 2-3 innings.

Randy Myers retired the last two Giants for his 22nd save.

Gregg Jefferies had three hits for the Mets and Howard Johnson and Kevin Elster added two hits and an RBI each. Kevin McReynolds drove in New York's first run, in the fourth inning.

Padres 8, Phillies 2

Dennis Rasmussen pitched a six-hitter for his first complete game this season, and Bip Roberts had a two-run homer as San Diego beat Philadelphia.

Rasmussen, 6-9, who had seven complete games last season, struck out four and walked none. The only Philadelphia run came on pinch-hitter Dwayne Murphy's two-run homer in the third inning. It was his second straight pinch homer.

San Diego scored five runs off Don Carman, 4-13, in the second. Jack Clark opened with a double and Chris James walked. Garry Templeton tripled them in, then scored one out later on Luis Salazar's single. After another out, Roberts homered to left, his second of the year and third of his career.

Reds 6, Cubs 5

Rookie Jerome Walton's 30-game hitting streak ended and Cincinnati Reds scored the tie-breaking run in the 10th inning

on a throwing error by Chicago third baseman Domingo Ramos.

Walton walked in the first inning and went hitless in his next four at-bats, grounding out to the pitcher to lead off the 10th. The loss was the fourth straight for Chicago, whose lead in the National League East fell to 1-2 games.

Dodgers 6, Expos 1

Tim Belcher snapped a personal three-game losing streak and handed Mark Langston only his second loss in his last 10 decisions as Los Angeles beat sagging Montreal.

Both Rick Dempsey and Alfredo Griffin singled home two runs in the Dodgers' four-run second inning, and Belcher, 9-12, combined with Jay Howell on a six-hitter to send Montreal to its 13th loss in 18 games.

The Expos, third in the National League East, trail the front-running Chicago Cubs by three games.

Results

American League		National League	
Oakland	6	Detroit	1
New York	6	Boston	4
Baltimore	5	Milwaukee	0
Kansas City	4	California	2
New York		San Francisco	
Los Angeles		Montreal	
San Diego		Philadelphia	
Cincinnati		Chicago	



Tyson (right) lands a right to Williams' jaw in their July 21 fight.

'Bout stopped prematurely'

Williams' manager seeks title rematch

NEW YORK, Aug. 22. (AP) Mike Tyson's first-round knockout of Carl "The Truth" Williams should be declared "no contest" and a rematch should be held because the bout was stopped prematurely, according to Williams' manager.

Ira Leibowitz requested the ruling in a letter to boxing's three main sanctioning bodies and the New Jersey State Athletic Commission, which had jurisdiction over the July 21 fight at Atlantic City.

In another letter last week, Leibowitz asked Tyson promoter Don King to give Williams a rematch with the heavyweight champion.

Williams got up at the count of seven after being knocked down by a left hook midway through the first round, but referee Randy Neumann stopped the fight despite protests from the challenger.

Leibowitz claims that Williams went down not from the hook, but from a head butt "that clearly changed Carl's direction and caused him to fall."

In his letter to the boxing organizations, Leibowitz also said Neumann did not follow proper procedures before stopping the bout.

"The referee made a determination that because Carl did not respond appropriately to a question he asked, he was in danger of further harm," Leibowitz wrote.

"He did not wipe Carl's gloves to give him a moment more to respond. He did not separate the fighters and allow them to come towards each other to see if Carl could defend himself. ... It was a bout being fought by experienced boxers for the heavyweight championship and should have proceeded."

Leibowitz asked for a joint hearing before the heads of the three sanctioning bodies: the World Boxing Association, World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation.

WBC president Jose Sulaiman said he was willing to hear the protest even though he felt the referee made the right decision.

James Binns, attorney for the WBA, also backed the referee's decision.

"He did exactly what he should have done," Binns said. "When he asked Williams those questions, all he got was a blank stare."

Dimitrova suspended

VIENNA, Aug. 22. (Reuters) Bulgarian heptathlete Svetla Dimitrova has been suspended from competition for two years after a positive dope test last month.

Official BTA news agency reported today.

Dimitrova's coach, Iliyan Pishikov, has been barred from training and the chief coach of Bulgaria's combined athletics teams, Stoyan Slavkov, has been dismissed, the agency said.

The decision was announced after a meeting yesterday of the Bulgarian Athletics Federation which also recommended that measures be taken against the

team's doctor Purvan Purvanov for lax supervision of the athletes in his care.

Dimitrova tested positive for amphetamines after finishing third in the combined athletics event at a European Cup competition in the Netherlands on July 15-16.

Bulgaria has declared a war on doping in sport after last year's Seoul Olympics where two Bulgarian weightlifters tested positive and were disqualified after winning gold medals.

As a result Bulgaria sent its entire weightlifting team home before the end of the Games.

Aouita aims to break mile record

BRUSSELS, Aug. 22. (Reuters) Moroccan Said Aouita is planning an attempt on the mile world record at Friday's Brussels Grand Prix athletics meeting.

Aouita, who on Sunday added the 3,000 metres world record to his marks at 1,500 and 5,000 metres, telephoned Van Damme Memorial meeting organiser Wilfried Meert yesterday to request a mile race be included in the programme.

He said he wanted to try to beat the record of three minutes 46.32 seconds set by Briton Steve Cram four years ago.

He told me "how would you like to have a world record in Brussels?" Meert said.

"When I asked him about the pace-setters, he said he had already taken care of that," Meert added.

Aouita said fellow-Moroccan Faouzi Lahbi would lead the first two laps. Then Dutchman Rob Druppers would take command for the next 400 metres.

From then on Aouita hoped to take the lead, accompanied as long as possible by his Kenyan friend Kipkoech Cheruiyot.

Meert said Mexican Arturo Barrios, who shattered the 10,000 metres world record in West Berlin on Friday, would run the 5,000 in Brussels.

The Brussels meeting also features Olympic champion Carl Lewis in the 100 metres and new high hurdles world record holder Roger Kingdom.

Kingdom will face fellow-American Renato Nehemiah, the man he relieved of the 110 metres hurdles world mark when he clocked 12.92 seconds in Zurich last week.

Bumper cash haul for Australians

CHELMSFORD, England, Aug. 22. (Reuters) Australia's Ashes-winning cricketers could leave England with more than £70,000 (\$109,000) in prize money from their triumphant tour.

Allan Border's team have so far collected £63,147 (\$99,140), and another £8,000 (\$12,000) is available from this week's sixth Test against England at the Oval which completes their itinerary.

Australia's prize fund was boosted by their victory over Essex on Monday - the eighth win in 14 first-class games against the counties. Their tour sponsors will be paying out £22,222 (\$34,888) for those wins.

Four victories in the first five Tests, earning Border's side £27,000 (\$42,000), and Man-of-the-Match prizes have helped to swell the cash haul.

Two-way tie for top spot

PORTLAND, Oregon, Aug. 22. (AP) Bob Gilder dropped in seven birdies as he and teammate Mar Calavecchia combined for a 10-under-par 62 on the par-72, 6,632-yard Portland Golf Club course.

"I was just saying 'nice shot, Bob,' all day," said Calavecchia, who was playing for the first time since he won the British Open a month ago.

Calavecchia had three birdies, all on par-5 holes, including one on the 18th to force the first-place tie.

Before Calavecchia's final putt, Stadler had led his team into first place, chipping in from 45 feet for a birdie on the par-4 13th hole, then sinking a 35-foot eagle putt on the 18th. Stadler had five birdies and an eagle, while Sindelar had four birdies.

Tom Kite, the No. 2 player on the 1989 earnings list at \$748,000 teamed with Chip Beck and was one shot back at 9-under-par 63.

Five tied for chess Cup lead

SKELLEFTEA, Sweden, Aug. 22. (AP) Former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union outmanoeuvred Yasser Seirawan of the United States in the eighth round of the Chess World Cup yesterday and moved up to share first place with four other players, including world champion Garry Kasparov.

Kasparov played tepidly with the white pieces against fellow Soviet Valery Salov, and agreed to a draw after only 17 moves.

Kasparov, Karpov, Salov, Soviet grandmaster Jann Ehlvest and Hungary's Jozsef Pinter are tied for first place each with five points out of eight.

Portish, playing black against Gulya Sax, overhauled his countryman in only 28 moves with a brutal checkmating attack.

Ehlvest pressed hard with the black pieces against Nigel Short of England, the third ranked player in the world, but careful endgame defence from short led Ehlvest to agree to a draw.

With two victories in a row, Karpov's return to form after a timid start could lead to an exciting finish in the 15-round competition.

The World Cup, a series of six tournaments featuring the leading 25 grandmasters, is widely regarded as the second most important chess event after the individual world championship cycle.

Karpov is the only player who can catch Kasparov in the series. To do so, he needs to win at least five of his seven remaining games in this tournament, the final leg of the competition.

By the half-way mark, Kasparov could have already amassed a crushing total, but he failed to force through victories in four games in the earlier rounds, where he held winning positions.

Each player competes in four of the six events, with their best three results counting.

Kasparov has won two out of his previous three tournaments. Karpov, 38, has won only one out of three.

Swedish grandmaster Ulf Andersson delighted the home crowd when he outplayed England's John Nunn.

Andersson and Short are tied to joint sixth place with four and a half points.

Viktor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector who now plays for Switzerland, drew his game with Hungary's Zoltan Ribli after a complex, hard-fought encounter.

Robert Huebner of West Germany and Soviet grandmaster Rafael Vaganian agreed their game drawn after only 19 moves.

The encounter between former world champion Mikhail Tal of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia's Predrag Nikolic was postponed until this evening. A tournament official said Tal was unwell and resting at his hotel, but gave no further details.

Tal, 52, who held the world title from 1960 until 1961, has been plagued by kidney problems, since the early 1960s. One of the most popular players on the international circuit, he suffered a heart attack in April, but recovered to compete the World Cup series.

The adjourned game between Seirawan and Korchnoi will also be completed this evening. After a two-day break, the tournament will continue on Friday with the ninth round.

A win scores a point and a draw a half. The final round is scheduled for September 2.

Powerboat racing gains support

ST PETER PORT, Guernsey, Aug. 22. (Reuters) Few sports can be as exhilarating or as frightening as international offshore powerboat racing.

It is high-speed, spray-splashed motor sport on water. High-powered catamarans and monohulls backed by up to 800 horse power and capable of topping 190 kph career across the sea to leave first-time participants with knuckles whitened, fists clenched, nerves stretched and hearts pounding.

Often dismissed as just a rich man's hobby, powerboat racing has developed in recent years into a potential rival to international motor sport as the favourite marketing arena for some of the most wealthy sports-sponsoring companies in the world.

In Italy this year a crowd of more than 100,000 people watched the Rome leg of the newly created world series for class one powerboats.

Italian companies have been impressed and the sight of a pack of these extraordinary vessels racing around their shores has

led to hugely increased support for the sport.

Former class one world champion Steve Curtis of Britain has been a beneficiary. Italian backing has enabled him to become a professional powerboat racer and a leading symbol of the sport's rapid growth.

"The Italians are mad on it," he said. "They love it and it gets terrific coverage on television and radio and in the newspapers. It is growing fast there and also in France."

"The sport has changed a lot. It's getting very competitive and very serious and it's too tough now at the top for anyone who only wants to mess about or pose. It's really very fast and very dangerous."

Curtis was speaking on the island of Guernsey where he had been asked to help to demonstrate the sport ahead of next month's class three two-litre world championship.

Rounds of the class one and class two world series are also scheduled to take place during the championship between September 2 and 10.

The class one world championship is being held in Atlantic City in October.

Curtis, a tall, grinning athlete with a wild mane of blond hair cheerfully acknowledges the mind-bending dangers of his chosen sport but firmly believes its growth will continue to be rapid.

"It has developed very quickly in the last few years and is now getting better organised on an international scale with sponsors and events and the regulations are being streamlined," he said.

"It is really only a matter of time before the television side of it gets properly sorted out with the development of the world series. Then the sport will take off."

Taking off is one of the first sensations of powerboat racing, as the boats crash against the swell and rise and dive in the waves.

Each boat carries two people - one on the throttle, who controls the speed and steering, and the other navigating.

With the boat dipping violent-

ly and then jumping out of the water at high speed it is virtually impossible at times to do much more than hang on for survival, let alone keep a sure eye on important landmarks, passing traffic and a compass.

Hang-waving is the only reliable form of communication between the two as they race across the waves, helmets often bumping uncontrollably on sharp turns around the corners of the racing course marked out by buoys.

Curtis' success has led several other Britons and a host of local Guernsey enthusiasts to seek glory in this year's powerboat week - but few expect to overcome the professional challenge from the Italians.

One who does, however, is Mark Sauvavin, a 33-year-old car sales director who has been racing powerboats for nine years.

His current model is a class three two-litre monohull in which he hopes to add a world title to his two Guernsey championships won already this year.

Wasim Akram takes five wickets for 44

Notts docked 25 points for sub-standard pitch

NOTTINGHAM, England, Aug. 22. (Reuters) Nottinghamshire yesterday became the second team to be docked 25 points in the English County Championship as the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) underlined their determination to get tough over sub-standard pitches.

The penalty was imposed by a TCCB investigating panel including pitches committee chairman Donald Carr and cricket secretary Tim Lamb.

The panel went to Nottinghamshire's ground at Trent Bridge after the pitch for their three-day match against Derbyshire and deteriorated over the weekend, and on the second day yesterday the game was switched to the strip used for the recent fifth Ashes Test.

Carr and his panel decided the original pitch was "clearly under-prepared and undoubtedly unfit for first-class cricket."

Essex were the first county to have 25 points taken from their championship tally, for a sub-standard pitch at southend last month.

The panel were happy there was no negligence or malpractice by Notts, and took into account the problems groundsman Ron Allsopp had encountered with a long spell of hot weather and the amount of time taken to prepare the Test pitch.

The defending strip was reported by the umpires and captains at lunch on the first day, and umpires Barrie Meyer and Peter Wright stopped play on the second morning after West Indian paceman Michael Hold-



Wasim: rocked Yorkshire

ing had given Notts' openers Chris Broad and Paul Pollard a bruising early barrage.

The umpires then ordered the pitch switch after consulting with TCCB officials at Lord's, the game resuming following a 90 minutes hold-up.

Holding was dismayed by the decision and refused to take any further part in the game, which Nottinghamshire won by 70 runs

with a day to spare.

His captain Kim Barnett said: "I would not like to judge Michael. It's been such a farce and such an extraordinary set of circumstances."

"I can understand his motives. He has his views and he is coming to the end of his career when people tend to have stronger opinions and are a bit less tolerant. He was not going to be



Holding: refused to play

bugged so we had to get on and try to win the game."

"Had the majority felt like Michael we would not have gone out at all but that would have looked bad. We were the innocent party because we came here to play a game of cricket and found a wicket that was totally unsuitable for first-class cricket."

England off-spinner Eddie

Derbyshire, needing 135 to win, lost opener Barnett first ball to Stephenson, who made the inroads that reduced the visitors to four for three wickets. Hemmings completed the demolition in 49 balls.

Warwickshire's Paul Smith claimed the first hat-trick of his career to complete his side's victory over Northamptonshire by an innings and 31 runs with a day to spare at Northampton.

The medium-pacer, who finished with four for nine, sent back England left-arm spinner Nick Cook, West Indian fast bowler Curtly Ambrose and Mark Robinson with consecutive balls as Northants collapsed to 109 all out.

Pakistani pace bowler Wasim Akram rocked Yorkshire with a burst of five for 13 in eight overs to give Lancashire the chance of their first win against their arch-rivals at old Trafford since 1980.

Wasim finished with five for 44 as Yorkshire collapsed from 159 for three to 192 all out - 101 behind on first innings.

Sri Lankan-born Gehan Mendis hammered an unbeaten 68 and Neil Fairbrother scored 40 as Lancashire raced to 137 for two by the close - 238 ahead.

Somerset captain Vic Marks helped to frustrate Hampshire's outside hopes of the championship with a dashing, unbeaten 89 at Taunton.

Marks struck a six and 12 fours and made his runs from 100 deliveries as Somerset, 94 for five at one stage in reply to Hampshire's 257 all out, recovered to 303 for eight.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Kuwait win

BEIJING, Aug. 22. (KUNA): Kuwait beat Iran 26-20 at the Asian Handball Championship here today for its second straight victory and also assured a place in the second stage.

Championship host China, which lost its opening match to Kuwait, will meet Iran for the second advancement from their group.

Omani club wins

MANAMA, Aug. 22. (AP): Oman's Fanja won the Coca Cola Gulf co-operation Council club soccer championship today, defeating their hosts, Bahrain's Muharraq, 4-2 in a penalty shoot-out at the national stadium at Isa Town.

The penalties were taken after both teams failed to resolve the 1-1 deadlock in the 120 minutes of play which included 30 minutes of extra time.

Rebel tour

LONDON, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Northamptonshire pace bowler Greg Thomas confirmed today that he will join the rebel English cricket tour of South Africa with Mike Gatting's side. The 29-year-old Welshman replaces Phil DeFreitas, who withdrew from Gatting's squad and who yesterday was recalled to the England team for the sixth Test against Australia, starting at the Oval on Thursday.

Player convicted

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 22. (AP): New York Yankees outfielder Luis Polonia was convicted of having sexual intercourse with a 15-year-old girl, but the judge yesterday postponed sentencing until after the baseball season.

Euro-championship

BREMEN, Aug. 22. (UPI): Finland takes on defending champion Italy tomorrow night for a place in the final of the fourth European Championship of American Football.

Golf season

LONDON, Aug. 22. (Reuters): A 1990 European golf tour season described as "the longest and strongest ever" was announced by tour executive director Ken Schofield today. The tour will cover 42 weeks and has 37 full events.

Title shot

KINGSTON, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Jamaica's flyweight boxing champion, has been guaranteed a shot at a world title by mid-December, local newspapers reported yesterday.

Stockport win

LONDON, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Result of an English Football League Cup first round, first leg match played yesterday: Stockport 1, Bury 0.

Four-game tour

TOKYO, Aug. 22. (UPI): A Japanese high school baseball selection will make a four-game playing tour of South Korea in early September, the Japan High School Baseball Federation announced.

Swedish playoffs

MALMO, Sweden, Aug. 22. (UPI): IK Goteborg, with two UEFA Cup titles one of the leading teams in Europe this decade, is likely to miss the Swedish Soccer League playoffs for the first time since it was introduced in 1981. Goteborg, overpowered 3-0 by League leader Malmö FF, is languishing in seventh place with six matches left and has to close a five-point gap to join the playoff semifinal teams.

Italian wins student games' first gold

DUISBURG, West Germany, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Italy's Diana Bianchedi swept to the first gold medal of the world student games with a swift victory in the women's foil fencing final today.

Bianchedi completely outwitted Hungary's Zsuzsanna Nemethne-Janosi to win by scoring eight hits without reply in a bout which lasted just 73 seconds.

But the Italian admitted afterwards she was never certain of gold until the deciding hit. "I was never certain I'd got it until the end. I was once 7-1 up in a bout and then went and lost it," she said.

Giovanna Trillini added to Italy's successful day by beating compatriot Francesca Bortolozzi 10-9 in the bout for bronze. But the opening event of the nine-day games was a disaster for West Germany's Sabine Bau, silver medalist at last year's Seoul Olympics.

The 20-year-old Bau, a member of West Germany's winning team at the World Fencing Championships in Denver earlier this year, was eliminated by China's Xiao Aihua in the second round.

Duisburg, a late replacement as the games venue after the International University Sports Federation (FISU) decided against the Brazilian city of Sao Paulo, is staging a scaled-down version of the biennial event.

The 2,900 athletes will compete in athletics, fencing, rowing and men's basketball. Track and field, the centrepiece of the games, starts on Friday.

Bassett-Seguso denies anorexia rumours

TORONTO, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Former Canadian national tennis champion Carling Bassett-Seguso yesterday denied persistent rumours that she is suffering from anorexia nervosa, known as the "starving disease" and that it has affected her heart.

"I had a child. I moved away from home. We built a house. It was a lot of stress. It just built up and I lost a lot of weight," an extremely thin looking Bassett-Seguso told a news conference at the women's Canadian Open tennis championships.

The weight loss — 20 pounds (9 kg) from her playing weight of 118 (54.5 kg) — did affect her, however.

"My metabolism just really shot up. I could never relax, could never sleep... but I never had any trouble with my heart," explained the 21-year-old Toronto native.

Stressed out and feeling sickly, she said she was forced to spend four and a half months away from the women's tour.

"Now I'm fine but it took a long time," she said, although she still has deep circles under her eyes and matchstick-thin arms and legs. Bassett-Seguso, who married American doubles ace Robert Seguso in October 1987, said she dropped to 98 (44 kg) pounds after the birth of her son, Holden John, on March 14, 1988.

"I was incredibly thin, but I was very, very fit. I could go a marathon," she insisted. Bassett-Seguso said she recently gained back eight pounds (3.6 kg) and now feels fit enough to try playing competitively again.

Sweden get difficult draw

W. Germany face easier task

MUNICH, West Germany, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Sweden, four times Davis Cup winners and finalists this year, were presented today with a difficult draw for the 1990 competition with both Austria and the United States in their path.

West Germany, the current Cup holders, face what should be an easier task, opening in February with a home tie against the Netherlands.

Austria was the surprise package of this year's event, knocking out former winners Australia 5-0 in their world group debut.

Even without their top players, Thomas Muster, injured in a freak car accident, the Austrians gave Sweden their hardest fight of the competition in a second round tie which the Swedes won 3-2.

The bad news for Sweden, whose own star Mats Wilander has suffered roller-coaster form, is that Muster is making a comeback and should be fighting fit by next year's second round in March when the two nations are scheduled to meet again.

Dates for the four rounds of the Cup have been rescheduled from their traditional spots to fit

in with the new-look circuit being organised by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP).

The semifinals have been put back two months to September, after the US Open, and the final, usually held a week before Chris-

mas, has been moved forward two weeks.

Provided joint top seeds Sweden, who meet Italy away in the first round, get past Austria they could find the United States waiting for them in the semifinals.



Wilander, out of form most of the time nowadays

The Americans, champions 28 times but empty-handed since 1982, reached the semifinals this year without dropping a match but then were beaten by West Germany 3-2 with their faithful doubles pair Ken Flach and Robert Seguso suffering their first defeat in Cup play.

The United States, joint third seeds with Yugoslavia who also reached this year's semifinals, host Mexico in the first round and would then play either Czechoslovakia or Switzerland.

West Germany, who beat Sweden to win the Cup for the first time last year and defend it against the same side in Stuttgart in December, do have Argentina to worry about.

The Argentines, Cup runners-up in 1981, are seeded on past performance even though they spent last year in the American zone. The newly-promoted team play host to Israel in the opening round.

If they reach the semifinals the West Germans could expect to meet either Yugoslavia, who travel to New Zealand for the opening tie, or France, joint fifth seeds, who hope to inflict another first-round knockout on Australia.

Three seeds upset at Canadian Open

TORONTO, Aug. 22. (Reuters): Larisa Savchenko was so disgusted with her play at the women's Canadian Open tennis championships that she threatened retirement after losing her first round match yesterday.

The 16th seed from the Soviet Union squandered a 6-3 2-0 lead to fall to American Donna Faber 3-6 6-2 6-2.

Two other seeded players were ousted on the opening day of this \$300,000 tune-up for next week's US Open.

Australian Louise Field upset 13th-seeded Austrian Judith Wiesner 6-3 6-4 and France's Catherine Suire surprised 14th-seeded American Terry Phelps 7-5 6-4.

Savchenko was clearly rusty, not having played since Wimbledon where she lost to Faber in the first round.

The American was able to neutralise Savchenko's serve and volley game with a combination of drop shots and passing shots that jerked the Soviet about the court and upset her already shaky timing.

Savchenko was so upset by the loss that she announced her impending retirement.

"I will finish playing tennis after the US Open," said the stocky Soviet, who teamed with countrywoman Natalia Zvereva to win this year's French Open doubles title.

"I didn't feel my game like I did last year," said Savchenko, whose ranking has dropped from 16 to 77.

"It's not possible for me to continue playing tennis like I am now. It's not tennis...I'm not enjoying the game."

Midway through her post-match interview session, however, the 23-year-old Sav-



Larisa Savchenko

chenko appeared to have a change of heart and decided to reconsider her retirement.

"I'll think about it some more," she said.

The top 11 seeds drew byes, including three-time Canadian champion and No. 1 seed Martina Navratilova, second-seeded Gabriela Sabatini, the defending champion, and third-seeded Chris Evert.

Anne Minter of Australia advanced to meet Evert after recording an easy 6-3, 6-0 win over Rene Simpson of Toronto.

"I've only played Chris once before," Minter said, "and last time I think I got one game, so I can't do much worse than that. I'm just going to go into the match this time and have some fun."

Malaysia win 18 SEA Games gold

Mardi speeds to victory

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 22. (UPI): Indonesia's Mardi Lester proved today he is Southeast Asia's fastest man, grabbing the gold medal in the 100 metres at the 15th Southeast Asian Games (SEA) while mighty Malaysia soared to the top of the gold medal table.

After flawlessly breezing through the semifinals in 10.45, Mardi sped home in 10.41 followed by Singapore's Haron Mundiur, who clinched the silver with a 10.57. Thailand's Visut Watanasin earned bronze in 10.66.

Mardi, Asia's sole sprinter in last year's Seoul Olympics, reflected the polish of his West German training, with his superiority evident from the start.

Malaysia had garnered 18 gold medals after two days of competition, followed by Indonesia with 15. Thailand improved its count to nine while the Philippines stood at eight and Singapore at two. Vietnam and Burma had one gold each. The Games end Aug 31 with a total of 302 gold medals at stake.

Elma Muros of the Philippines set a new SEA Games record in the women's 100 metres hurdles

with her 13.98 sprint smashing the old mark of 14.09.

Burma's Aye Aye Maw captured silver in 14.36. Malaysian Che Ona Che Amt was third with a 14.50.

Zulkifli Mohammed Yatim ran 14.57 to give Malaysia the gold in the 110-metre hurdles. Indonesian Prayogo grabbed the silver with a 14.74, and the bronze went to Singapore's P. Parameswaran who clocked in at 14.84.

Hasiati Lawole, an Indonesian policewoman, finished the women's 10 km walk in 52.49.96, breaking the previous record of 53:52.11 set by Burma's Ma Hla Shwe in Jakarta in 1987.

"I did not expect to win or break a record," said the beaming 22-year-old Hasiati.

Burmas Hla Shwe, who took the silver with a 53:13.61, said she had to slow down after receiving a warning from the judges for "floating," or approaching a run.

"I was capable of overtaking Hasiati but didn't want to risk being disqualified," she said.

Some of the results

Women's 100 metre hurdles
1. Elma Muros (Philippines) 13.98 seconds (new record); 2. Aye Aye (Burma)

14.36; 3. Che Ona (Malaysia) 14.50
Men's 110 metre hurdles
1. Zulkifli Mohammed Yatim (Indonesia) 14.57 seconds; 2. Hero Prayogo (Indonesia) 14.74; 3. Pasupathy Parameswaran 14.84

Women's shot
1. Lee Chiew Ha (Malaysia) 14.20m; 2. Jaunita Posmay (Indonesia) 13.39; 3. Ng Phayay (Malaysia) 12.32

Women's 100 metres
1. Rajai Sripet (Thailand) 11.57 seconds; 2. Sajaratuldar (Malaysia) 11.78; 3. G. Shanti (Malaysia) 11.84

Men's 100 metres
1. Mardi Lester (Indonesia) 10.41 seconds; 2. Haron Mundiur (Singapore) 10.57; 3. Visut Watanasin (Thailand) 10.66

Men's 400 metres
1. Isidro Del Prado (Philippines) 47.20 seconds; 2. Nordin Jadi (Malaysia) 47.89; 3. Yuthana Thonglek (Thailand)

Men's shot
1. Arjuna Singh (Malaysia) 16.18 (Games record); 2. Bunchar Suprayon (Thailand) 14.35; 3. Lee Cheng Sun (Malaysia) 14.11

Men's 100 individual
1. Lim Teng Piao (Malaysia); 2. Ronald Tan Kim Hui (Singapore); 3. Mok Cheek Wong (Malaysia); 4. Dida Irawan (Indonesia)

Karate (men's kumite below 70 kg)
1. V. Chanthirun (Malaysia); 2. Ferry Manoppo (Indonesia); 3. Ericson Fernan (Philippines); Benjamin Manvas (Philippines)

Karate (men's kumite below 75 kg)
1. Agus Mukyan (Indonesia); 2. Makdotine Tules (Malaysia); 3. Mulkhan Pasaribi (Indonesia); Ibrahim Sheikh Ali (Malaysia)

Men's kata team event
1. Philippines; 2. Indonesia; 3. Malaysia

Women's kata team event
1. Indonesia; 2. Malaysia; 3. Brunei

Plague kills 130 horses in Spain

SEVILLE, Spain, Aug. 22. (Reuters): At least 130 horses have died in southern Spain in the latest outbreak of African horse plague, which could jeopardise equestrian events at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, a local official said today.

At least 69 other horses are ill with the highly infectious disease and are expected to die, Antonio Lopez of the Andalusia regional government said.

A vaccination programme eventually aimed at some 70,000 animals in the region had started in the province of Huelva, the worst hit by the disease, with the treatment of almost 4,000 horses, he added.

Vaccinations were also underway around Seville.

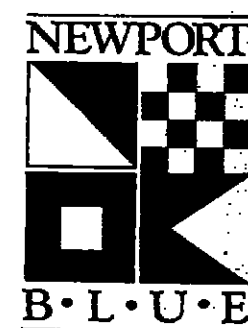
The local government yesterday extended a ban on all movements of horses, mules and donkeys to include the whole of Andalusia.

International Equestrian Federation (FIE) vice-chairman Count Landsberg Velen said on Saturday hopes of Olympic equestrian events being held in Barcelona were slim because of the outbreak and alternatives would have to be found in the coming months.

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